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Sub-Saharan Africa Report



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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN BUCHAREST—The working sessions of the Angola-Romania Joint Commission, which began in Bucharest last Thursday, ended yesterday with the signing of a protocol for bilateral cooperation. The working sessions, which were led by Paulo Jorge, Angolan minister of foreign affairs, and by Stefan Andrei, Romanian minister of foreign affairs, established a new program of action designed to develop and strengthen cooperation between Angola and Romania in the fields of industry, agriculture, mining exploration, transport, and others. In Bucharest the Angolan minister of foreign affairs met with the Romanian ministers of foreign trade and international economic cooperation and finance, with whom he discussed matters related to bilateral cooperation and the international situation. The day before yesterday, Jorge was received in audience by Nicolae Ceausescu, Romanian head of state, with hom he exchanged views on relations between the two countries and on the latest developments of the situation in Southern Africa. [Text] [BM190746 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Mar 84]

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES FRELIMO POLICIES, RSA PACT

MB151326 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Incomati Accord on Nonaggression and Good Neighborliness which Mozambique and South Africa will sign tomorrow is a continuation of the policies Frelimo has been following ever since it was founded, 22 years ago. At that time, Mozambique was under Portuguese colonial rule and Frelimo, under the leadership of Eduardo Mondlane, explored every possibility of achieving independence by peaceful means. It was only when these attempts proved fruitless that the armed struggle was launched in 1964. In 10 years of war, thousands of Mozambicans died, but Frelimo won independence. Peace was a fundamental principle of the constitution adopted by the new country in 1975.

At independence, Mozambique was faced with a new problem: The illegal Smith regime in Rhodesia, on our western border. In an attempt to find a peaceful solution, Frelimo played an active role setting up the talks between the Smith regime, Zimbabwe nationalists, and the South African Government at Victoria Falls in 1975. Once again it became clear that there was no possibility of a peaceful way to independence in Zimbabwe, and Mozambique threw its full support behind the liberation movements ZANU and ZAPU. While supporting the freedom fighters, Mozambique never neglected any opportunity to seek a peaceful solution. At the Lancaster House Conference in London in 1979, Mozambique again played a key role in reaching the agreement that led to Zimbabwe's independence.

Ever since the first ministerial meeting between Mozambique and South Africa at Komatipoort in December 1982, Mozambique has been proposing an accord of nonaggression and good neighborliness. This was ir spite of increasing aggression by Pretoria, through direct attacks and through the barbarous activities of the armed bandits trained and directed by South Africa. A successful military offensive against the bandits and a successful diplomatic offensive spearheaded by President Samora Machel have overcome all obstacles and nonaggression pact has been agreed.

Through 22 years of history, Frelimo's policy has been consistent. Peace is always the goal. But when it is necessary to fight to reach that goal, Mozambique is ready to take up arms. The Incomati Accord is the latest fruit of that policy.

NONAGGRESSION PACT WITH SOUTH AFRICA EXAMINED

MB151830 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

["Insight" program interview with AIM Director Carlos Cardoso by Iain Christie in Maputo; date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Christie] There is an evident gulf between Mozambique's appraisal of the reasons for the nonaggression agreement, which is to be signed soon, and the appraisal of people who are far from the Southern African scene. If I can just give you some examples: On Thursday last week, President Samora Machel attributed the success of peace talks to the failure of South Africa's policy of sponsoring armed bandits to attack Mozambique. Then on Tuesday we had a headline in the national newspaper here, NOTICIAS, saying that the nonaggression agreement was a triupmh for Mozambique policy. At the same time we have the OAU expressing sympathy with Mozambique, as though we had been dragged to the conference table in chains. And just this week I heard that an old friend in the United States, (Ted Lockwood) of the American Friends Service Committee, was being thoroughly gloomy and saying the agreement indicates that South Africa's destabilization policy is actually working. However, we are in the bizarre position of celebrating a victory while our friends are offering commiserations because they appear to think we have been defeated. As a journalist, what do you see as the objective reality, the truth?

[Cardoso] Well, I can't see how a destabilization strategy is winning when it retreats. I can't see why people keep on seeing what is happening here as a victory for South Africa. Let us suppose that South Africa does abandon its support for armed bandits—for thousands of bandits who South Africa has been organizing. Point number one, they abandon them. Point number two, they get out of Southern Angola. Point number three, they get out of Namibia. (?Yes), there are indications that South Africa is preparing to withdraw from Namibia: Herman Toivo's release, the not so subtle change from the word terrorists to the word insurgents or guerrillas when they refer to SWAPO now in the official South African press. How can this be a victory for destabilization?

I view the situation as a change in strategy, a defeat of the military option taken up by Pieter Botha and Magnus Malan against the Vorster alliance, the alliance between John Vorster and Van den Bergh, when they (?couped) Vorster and Van den Bergh, and went ahead with the invasion of Angola, and then with

an overall strategy of military destabilization in the area. Nineteen eighty-three and 1984 are witnessing the defeat of that strategy. Now this does not mean that the South African apartheid state does not wish to initiate another strategy. An economic one. One which, in their hopes, will lead South Africa back to regional economy hegemony. That might be the case, but one cannot see—and I tell you how it can be seen—(?as just) a replacement of strategy. There is a defeat of one strategy, and the state—the apartheid state—takes on another, but only because they were not able to achieve the objectives which they intended to achieve with a military option.

Now, what were those objectives? In South Africa's publicity--propagandathere is this phrase which is hammered time and time again. That South Africa went ahead with the destabilization strategy to force the countries in the region to sign nonaggression pacts. I cannot see any government in the world spending a billion dollars per annum just on logistics, only to sign nonaggression pacts. If you are a government you spend that kind of money to change governments in your region, (?which ought at least) change the terms of (?defense security) of those governments.

What was South Africa's objective in Angola? It was very clearly to move the MPLA toward agreement with UNITA. In Angola they not only did not get the MPLA to sign an agreement, they made the MPLA stronger. They strengthened Angola's army, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], very much and today FAPLA has awesome firing power turned against the South, I mean the Cunene Province occupied by the South African troops. So, South Africa came to the point of facing a possible loss of 3,000 to 4,000 white soldiers, that would be very dangerous for Pieter Botha's government.

[Christie] In terms of internal politics?

[Cardoso] In terms of internal politics. He would have to face the electorate and explain how the country had lost thousands of soldiers. So far in the last (?2) years they have lost over 700 soldiers and now the MPLA has been armed. It has got sufficient weapons, perhaps from September of last year, to move against the South Africa army in the Cunene, and that is why they are retreating from the Cunene. Pieter Botha is not sufficiently—how can I put it?—is not very sufficiently mature in so far as the limitations of his power is concerned, to withdraw, not to let the military strategy, the military option, go to its final defeat—total military defeat. He did not want to face a total military defeat.

On the Eastern front, what did he want? What did the militarists in South Africa want? They wanted Mozambique to change course. They wanted Frelimo to abandon its socialist program. They wanted Frelimo to talk to the armed bandits, and Frelimo has not talked with the armed bandits. And now they are signing an agreement which presupposes that they abandon support and organizing the armed bandits. What has happened—(?and should have happened) in 1981 when you understand a little bit better—South Africa was not prepared to put a stooge in power in Maputo.

[Christie] Why not?

[Cardoso] Because it would have to occupy Mozambique, or at least the southern part of Mozambique, with at least 50,000 soldiers (?to fight), to face Frelimo as a guerrilla movement again.

[Christie] So, it had to find a stooge as well.

[Cardoso] Well, they could get a stooge. There are many candidates for that kind of role...

[Christie] [interrupting] Any prestige?

[Cardoso] They haven't got anybody with prestige, but they could put up a kind of bantustan government in Maputo, occupy Maputo--30,000, 40,000, 50,000 troops--and then face a guerrilla struggle by Frelimo inside South Africa. Then the world--I mean Africa, I mean the socialist countries, I mean even Western Europe--could no longer accept South Africa's (?status) as a member of the United Nations. Now...

[Christie] [interrupting] So you are saying South Africa has in fact changed its policies?

[Cardoso] Yes, this is what I am saying, that the military strategy is now... [sentence incomplete] There was enough time for P. W. Botha to change the strategy, to retreat on the military strategy and take up another one. And if you look at the internal crisis in South Africa, the economic crisis—the most serious one since the big depression of 1929—and what the businessmen in South Africa are saying is that while you have been pursuing a policy of destabilization in the area, countries like France, Italy, Canada, and the Nordic countries have been coming in with capital into a market which was our own 9 years ago. So, he has lost 9 years. Basically, I think, trying to look at the situation from the ideas, from the discussions [word indistinct] Cape Town and Pretoria I see, I can vizualize P. W. Botha, Magnus Malan, Roelof Botha, a lot of these leaders, feeling very, very self—critical in relation to someone who is now caught with good memory [word indistinct], namely John Vorster.

AIM COMMENTARY ON AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA

AB191710 Dakar PANA in English 1630 GMT 19 Mar 84

[AIM Commentary: "Nkomati Agreement"]

[Text] Maputo, 19 March (AIM/PANA)--One striking feature of the Nkomati Agreement between Mozambique and South Africa is how much its political content completely overshadows the legalistic aspects, by establishing good faith as the principle on the basis of which application of the agreement should be judged.

The text of the agreement is, happily enough, short, for throughout its ll articles it avoids the pitfall of ifs and buts.

There is a reference to recourse to mediation by the third parties, but the arena for resolving any problems that may arise in implementing the agreement is mostly that of direct negotiation. The articles on the joint security commission are a clear indication of this. It will meet regularly, and it can take temporary measures in cases of urgency.

This facet of the Nkomati Agreement arises from the conclusion that both sides came to, during the talks in Mozambique and in South Africa, that the less interference in the region by foreign powers the better.

Perhaps it is as well as to recall here President Samora Machel's insistence on the African way of reaching agreement through word of honour rather than through a whole complicated set of checking mechanisms. This much the Mozambican leader told Roelof Botha when he received the three ministers on the South African delegation to the Maputo talks on 20 February.

The meeting of Major General Jacinto Veloso and other Mozambican ministers with Prime Minister Pieter Botha in Cape Town on 2 March consolidated this spirit.

And it should be so--for no amount of juridical jargon is going to guarantee peace.

For Mozambique, it has been no small affair to place so much trust in the other side, after 20 years of regular attacks from South Africa. The South African Army had soldiers fighting alongside the Portuguese colonial army against

Frelimo in the early sixties. It intervened again in the mid-70's, this time assisting the Rhodesian Army in Ian Smith's 4 year war of aggression against independent Mozambique. Since 1980 South Africa has organised and supplied thousands of bandics in an orgy of destruction and destablisation inside Mozambique with its regular ground troops and its air force.

Therefore, for the Mozambican leadership, trust in Pieter Botha's declarations of commitment to normal relations has been a cornerstone in its negotiating position.

Fundamentally, this trust arises from a reading of the objective factor that South Africa has interests of its own in the accord.

In this respect, the Nkomati Agreement reminds one of President Samora Machel's message to the British Government as the Lancaster House talks were being prepared following the August 1979 Lusaka Commonwealth Conference. President Samora told British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher that he trusted Britain's stated desire to see Rhodesia become Zimbabwe through free and democratic elections.

Once again, Samora Machel has used this direct approach to a 20-year-old problem. It has paid off. In his straightforwardness he has avoided basing the agreement on the distrusts of the past, choosing rather the hope for a future of good neighbourly relations.

In a nutshell, one could say that commitment and seriousness have been the guiding methodology so far. They have achieved far more than a whole volume of juridical procedures would have. One must now hope that they will continue to be the basis of coexistence in the future of relations between two societies which will remain politically distanced until apartheid has become something of the past.

COMMENTARY URGES ECONOMIC PROGRESS AFTER ACCORD

MB151925 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] We are only a few hours from the moment when the solemn signing ceremony of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord between Mozambique and South Africa will take place. In this commentary we are not going to give a narration on the process that led to the consensus on the need to preserve peace on the common border between the two sovereign states, let alone referring to the great historic meaning of the accord for both Southern Africa and the world. For us Mozambicans, a number of aspects of the accord deserve profound reflection.

in 8 years of independence we have yet to know total stability. Natural disasters have also hampered the growth indexes of our economy, while the world economic recession has been a heavy burden on our balance of payments. In our opinion, the best way of giving due respect to the accord to be signed should be for everyone to work for the rehabilitation of the economy and strengthening of vigilance.

Despite the signing of the peace accord with South Africa, the armed bandits will not cease their criminal actions. They will try in vain to halt this new stage of our history. Abandoned and left to their own mercy, the armed bandits could step up terrorism in the next few days and even try to reach areas not previously hit in a false show of force. (?Here, we especially call upon on) everyone, as patriots, to step up combat readiness by supporting with every available means the Mozambique armed forces. The peace we are building is the guarantee that we will go even further in increasing production and productivity, that is, to improve our standard of living.

The task that lies ahead is a hard one, and progress depends on our capacity to complete all projects, either economic or social. Let us therefore draw the benefits from the accord, not only for us, but for the coming generations also.

BRIEFS

GEOLOGICAL COOPERATION DISCUSSION--In Maputo yesterday delegations of Mozambique and Tanzania discussed the most efficient ways to increase joint cooperation in the field of geology and mineralogy at the bilateral and regional levels. Minister Jose Carlos Lobo said it was necessary to develop the research, prospecting, exploitation, treatment, and sale of the huge mineral resources that both countries possess. The Tanzanian delegation to the talks was headed by Paul Bomani, minister of minerals. [Text] [MB160825 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Mar 84]

RESISTANCE TO STOP BROADCASTS--In a short announcement yesterday, Radio Quizumba unexpectedly said that it was going to stop broadcasting. This is reported by NOTICIAS today. This radio station, which has been broadcasting programs insulting the People's Republic of Mozambique, began transmissions in 1976 from Gwelo in the colony of Rhodesia. In February 1980 it interrupted its transmissions, but then resumed its operations from South African territory late in June of the same year. Contrary to what happened in the last programs broadcast from Rhodesia, now Radio Quizumba did not say when it would resume its operations. In a weak voice the announcer only said that the radio was forced to suspend its transmissions in order to reorganize. [Text] [MB161150 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 16 Mar 84]

USSR DONATES PRINTING PRESS--The 25 September Journalists of the Mozambique Armed Forces have acquired a new press to print their newspaper and magazine. The printing machine was acquired recently from the Soviet Union. The field printing machine was handed over to our armed forces on Thursday in the presence of Major General Jorge Rebelo, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Political Bureau and party ideological secretary. The ceremony was attended by Major General Armando Panguene, deputy defense minister and national political commissar of the Mozambique Armed Forces; Major Gideon Ndobe and Augusto Salomao, state defense secretaries; and other senior FPLM workers, and military journalists. [From the "Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program] [Text] [MB190533 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 18 Mar 84]

ROLE OF 'KADUNA MAFIA' IN COUP EXAMINED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 2, 18 Jan 84 pp 4-5

[Commentary: "Nigeria: Shadows of the Mafia"]

[Text]

During the past two weeks it has become fairly northern military establishment.

College. Leading National Party of Nigeria (NPN) cratic élite and the technocratic élite. Shagari, Dikko, Memorial Hospital in Kano. Ciroma (a technocratic aristocrat whom the Mafia rats - the real Mafia.

Hence the Mafia's political scheming to find a clear that the military coup was strongly influenced political organisation and base through which to by the élite northern group of technocrats called the gain influence. After the death in June last year of Kaduna Mafia. The dissatisfaction of the Mafia, Aminu Kano, leader of the Peoples' Redemption and its attempts to gain influence within the multi- Party (PRP), the Mafia tried unsuccessfully to hijack party system was evident in the run-up to last year's the PRP's leadership. At the same time the Mafia elections when the Mafia began negotiations with had begun talks with the UPN. A number of well-Chief Awolowo's Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) - known PRP intellectuals, such as Salihi Iliyasu, AC Vol 24 No 14. As we documented at that time, appear to have worked with the Mafia in the latter's the leading figure in the Mafia was Gen. Shehu negotiations with Awolowo. Clearly the Mafia was Musa Yar'Adua, who is a close friend of Maj. Gen. intent on building a wide net of influence. Awolowo Mohammed Buhari and indeed of much of the took the negotiations very seriously, perhaps not so much because of the Mafia's unrealistic "promise" Broad-brush analysis of the Mafia drew attention to deliver 25% of the northern vote, rather because to a common thread among its members: Barewa of it's ability to deter a coup if he won the election.

That the Mafia signed an agreement with figures, including Shehu Shagari, Adamu Ciroma Awolowo in June or July is beyond doubt. At and Umaru Dikko, were Barewa alumni. It was the time the most powerful Mafia member was therefore often concluded that the Mafia was at the Yar'Adua. Other leading figures included Dr. Iya centre of Shagari's administration. That was not so. Abubakar, vice-chancellor of Ahmadu Bello Univer-Since even before the hand-over to civilian rule by sity (ABU); Dr. Suleiman Kumo, vice-chancellor of Gen. Obasanjo in 1979, the Mafia had begun to Bayero University of Kano; Dr. Yaya Abubakar of break away from the traditional Hausa-Fulani aris- the Institute of Administration at ABU; and Dr. tocracy. Thus emerged the split between the aristo- Datti Ahmed, owner and director of the Asmau

It should be noted that, unlike the Hausa-Fulani had favoured as the NPN presidential candidate in aristocracy, the Mafia had (and still has) substantial 1979) were in the aristocratic camp and bound up modern investment in industry and agri-business. completely with the NPN party machine. Other non- That needs a well-run and open economy. Dr. aristocrats, such as Ibrahim Tahir, seeing the tide Ahmed stressed publicly in early August the high turning in favour of the NPN, had forfeited their priority the Mafia placed on economic efficiency. links with the Mafia. By 1981 the above did not From the Mafia's standpoint a feasible solution was serve the interests or follow the ideas of the technoc- to have had Awolowo win the election, stamp out corruption, rationalise the economy, promote induschoosing.

the prominent provisions on Islamic affairs in the tian - was a measure of their desperation.

The NPN's extraordinary election "victory" to their military associates. Hence the coup.

rats. So far the Mafia cannot complain.

l olice problem

chief, Sunday Adewusi. The armed forces also want been abolished. tough action against the police. Reports that most escape.

The governors

governor of Gongola for the second time (his pre- candidates and their parents • vious spell started under Murtala Mohammed), was born in Sokoto. (Jega is among those senior officers

trial development and then step down at the end of trained in Pakistan). Even the Ibo-sounding Brig. his term in favour of a northerner of the Mafia's Ike Nwachukwu, governor of Imo, has only an Imo father - his mother is from Katsina. The other Another point of note is the religious fundamental- Ibo governor, Commander Allison Madueke, was ism espoused by many of the Mafia. Though they trained in India but broke off his course to return live modern and often extravagant life-styles, they to Nigeria to fight in the Biafran war with Ojukwu. take Islam seriously and want to promote it. Hence More recently he was military attaché in Washington.

As yet there is no uniform policy for the states, public account of their deal with Awolowo. The though several of the governors have started to instil Mafia's approach to Awolowo - a southern Chris- discipline by arriving early in their offices to check unpunctual civil servants. Lieut. Col. David Mark, governor of Niger, posed as an ordinary patient in obviously ended the Mafia's hopes of any democratic a hospital. He then sacked inattentive staff. Brig. attempt to gain influence. In these circumstances it Useni has reinstated some of the civil servants sacked was not surprising that leading Mafia figures turned by retired Brig. Samuel Ogbemudia when he took over Bendel State from his defeated UPN opponent But it does not mean that Buhari and his senior after the elections. (Ogbemudia governed the state colleagues are serving directly the Mafia's interests. until the Murtala Mohammed shake-up). Last week A coup by senior, socially aware northern officers Ogbemudia, who had been on the wanted list, was was for the Mafia simply the best realistic option. arrested in Benin and taken under heavy security to They key question now is to what extent the Buhari Lagos to see the Chief of Staff, Brig. Tunde Idiagadministration will take the advice of the technoc-bon, who is in charge of the new governors. He was the first and possibly the only ex-governor to be so treated. It is probably a warning to the present military governors not to consider their appo-Meanwhile Buhari has his first problem: sharp intments permanent sinecures. They have been differences between the army and the police, underli- instructed not to allow themselves to be addressed ned by strong public demand for action against as "Your Excellency" or to refer in their statements security forces which had shown themselves partisan to "my government". Some states may be merged and brutal in the recent elections. Yoruba hatred of to reduce administrative expenses. Certainly no new the armed police is particularly fierce and has not states will be created and local government divisions been abated by the sacking of the unpopular police established after the military handover in 1979 have

Indications are that Nigeria under Buhari will be police had been disarmed started to circulate almost tougher with OPEC than is generally supposed, and immediately after the coup, as did an unconfirmed that oil bartering will be done where possible to pay directive that the armoured vehicles issued before for major infrastructure development projects. In the elections for riot control and other transport order not to affect Nigeria's normal oil sales, that were to be surrendered to the government. The police will mean bartering with Asian or Communist counhas been accused, apparently with some justification, tries. (Yugoslavia participated in such deals during of letting important politicians on the wanted list Buhari's pre-civilian term as commissioner for petroleum). The most serious political repercussions the new government can expect from its economic measures so far is the announcement that no new It is now apparent that not all the military gover- Nigerian students will be allowed to go overseas. nors are indigenes of the states which they govern. Though students already overseas will be allowed to Brig. Jeremiah Useni, governor of Bendel, comes finish their courses, the hopes of almost every aspirfrom Plateau; Brig. Garba Duba, governor of Sok- ing secondary school pupil have been dashed: to oto, is of Niger state origin; and Brig. M D Jega, study overseas is practically always preferred by

PRISON CONDITIONS FOR OJUKWU NOTED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 3 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Anene Ugoan]

[Text] Chief Emka Odumegwu-Ojukwu, the Ikemba of Nnewi, has been isolated at the Kirikiri Maximum Security Prisons by his fellow political detainees, according to inside sources.

The sources said Chief Ojukwu was staying alone in a cell as no other political detainee accepted to be his cell-mate.

A detainee who nearly agreed to share a cell with the Ikemba, had complained about the former biafran leader's habit of "chain smoking" inside the cell.

Sources had it that apart from Chief Ojukwu, the only detainee staying in the cell is the deposed Vice-President, Dr Alex Ekwueme, but this is as "a mark of respect."

Other political detainees stay four in a cell.

As Chief Ojukwu has nobody to talk with him, no radio, TV or newspapers to kill time with, he chain smokes and muses away the days.

Chief Ojukwu, who was checked into the prison yard on January 21, has been placed on special diet which prison sources said was virtually the same kind of food given to other convicts.

The inside sources revealed that ex-Governor Bisi Onabanjo of Ogun State has been indisposed.

His medical doctor visits him twice in a week, according to sources.

Despite his ill-health, sources went on, Chief Onabanjo had been spending the nights fighting mosquitoes and cat-sized rats.

On Sunday, ex-Governor Onabanjo gave N5 to a man to buy him a packet of mosquito coils.

The messenger bought a packet of the coils for N1.50 from a kiosk close to the prison yard and left murmuring that he might not give Chief Onabanjo the N3.50 change.

Sources said that ex-Governor Michael Ajasin of Ondo State, said to be the oldest man amongst the detainees, happens to be the most agile of them all.

At the moment, the detainees are politely complaining against bathing and drinking water fetched from three all-purpose wells dug inside the yard.

It was gathered that Chief M. Ugochukwu, a businessman, was marched into the maximum security prison on Tuesday.

REINTRODUCTION OF POLL TAX ADVOCATED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 6 Feb 84 p 3

[Editorial in the column "DAILY TIMES Opinion": "Reintroducing the Poll Tax"]

[Text] Benue and Plateau States, mired in huge debts and increasingly unable to finance government projects and essential services, recently reintroduced the poll tax. Because considerable sentiments were evoked in favour of its abolition, the reemergence of this tax has expectedly become controversial in some quarters.

For opponents of the tax, it is tempting to claim that in the past it was an instrument of oppression against the masses.

While these views are valid criticisms against how poll taxes were collected in some states in the past, they unfortunately ignore the realistic premise on which their reintroduction was based. The Federal Government subventions, which are the greatest source of revenue to most of the states, have been dwindling in recent years both as a result of the former's ever-increasing responsibilities and of its narrowing financial straits.

The dependence of most of the states on the Federal Government is now accentuated by their inability to internally generate substantial revenue to meet the growing expectations of their citizens.

Many of these expectations, we believe, are legitimate but in looking up to the government for the provision of certain social services, a citizen should know that the same expectations justifiably impose on him some basic civic responsibilities. He can, for instance, expect to ride on good roads, and have clean water to drink and an efficient hospital to attend. If only he, in association with other citizens, contributes through tax payment to the provision of these amenities.

Unfortunately, some opponents of the poll tax, too, eager to style its abolition a progressive measure, see this tax as "an imposition." This negative, inflamatory sentiment ran through the political considerations on which the tax was previously scrapped. Its abolition was the victim of narrow political gains rather than a rational economic decision.

Now that the era of party politics is gone, the poll tax, like any other issue; should be dispassionately examined. It is obvious that some states are

better endowed with economic resources than others. As it has become increasingly clear that the Federal Government cannot bear every responsibility of every state, the states should endeavour to seek new sources of revenue for their own development.

Yet we are especially sensitive to the shortcomings that married, in the past, the poll tax and its collection. The old system that farmed out poll tax collection to emirs and traditional rulers encouraged quite a number of irregularities and abuses and should therefore be discontinued. Tax reforms aimed at ensuring a faster but cheaper collection system are urgently necessary if the new poll tax is to achieve the aims of its reintroduction.

HOPES REPORTED RISING FOR RAW MATERIALS IMPORTERS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 28 Jan 84 p 24

[Article by Roseline Umesi']

[Text] Directives have been issued on the payments of outstanding debts incurred by importers of raw materials in the country.

This step is being taken to regain the confidence of foreign suppliers and get the nation's industrial wheel rolling again.

Under this arrangement, the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Nigeria are to refinance all claims outstanding as at December 30, 1983.

This included imports under open account to assection; bills for collection; unconfirmed letters of credit; outstanding aims on dividends; management and technical services fees, etc.

To carry out this operation successfully, the Central Bank has directed that the importers affected should submit within four weeks the vital information in respect of all applications outstanding as at December 30, 1983.

The required information included those of the names and addresses of the importers; names of the local bank which processed the application and other details.

Other requirements included the details of the exporter supply; Form 'M' number; the SGS clean report of findings and date and the amount claimed, including overseas interest as enclosed on a bill of exchange.

More requirements, included the names and addresses of the foreign banks and other details; bill of lading or air waybill and date; details of customs bill of entry. For more details the importers are advised to contact their local banks.

The importers and their suppliers have also been advised to supply adequate and authentic information promptly, direct to the deputy director, foreign operations department, Central Bank of Nigeria in order to facilitate the reconciliation of all outstanding claims for the purpose of the refinancing negotiations.

It is estimated that about N3.4 billion is owed in respect of bills for collection out of the estimated N4.5 billion trade bill debt owed by Nigeria.

Among the trade debt owed, this is said to be the most delicate and easily subjected to abuse, in the sense that such imports are normally transacted without the knowledge of both the commercial banks or the Central Bank until the goods arrive in the country.

In this case both commercial banks, foreign banks and the CBN have no control over the importer and the exporters private arrangement.

1,050 ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY DEFECT TO TPLF

War Communique Issued

Mogadiscio HEEGAN in English 24 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] MOGADISHU, Thursday--A war communique issued by the TPLF office here this week said the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) has in a fierce fighting early this month killed or wounded 90 Ethiopian soldiers and captured 89 others in areas in and outside Tigray.

In Tigray, the guerrillas attacked enemy troops at Senkaber and controlled the area. The guerrillas further attacked and captured the sub-districts of Gelamor and Beyeda in Gonder region.

In collaboration with the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM), the TPLF guerrillas attacked and incurred heavy casualties to enemy troops stationed in Endagiorgis, 30 km from Gonder, the capital city of Gonder province.

The communique also added that about 1050 Ethiopian soldiers and militiamen in Gelamora and Bayad also in Gonder region, defected with their arms to the TPLF.

Meanwhile a total of 154 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded, 144 taken prisoners of war and different types of weapons seized earlier this year by the TPLF with the joint collaboration of the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM).

In this fighting which took place in Gonder province, fascist Ethiopian troops withdraw from many towns due to frustration caused by continuous guerrilla attacks.—HEEGAN

Editorial Comment

Mogadiscio HEEGAN in English 24 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Mengistu's Turn To Escape"]

[Text] As things are going inside Ethiopia today the time may not be too far when Mengistu, will run for his life. Because it seems that all the

Officers in Abysinia's army are trying to escape. For example, according to the American News Agency, the Associated Press, an Ethiopian airforce lieutenant attempted to hijack a military plane to Somalia recently. When the pilot disobeyed his order, the lieutenant blew up the plane, killing all twenty-six people on board.

Most of the Ethiopian troops in Eritea are devising ways to cross over ato Sudan without being detected. Often, whole units are deserting with their weapons and Sudan is today faced not only with caring for the Eritrean refugees, but also for these masses of Ethiopian soldiers who keep pouring into Sudan. They are fed up with the endless fighting on several fronts, with the repression and tyranny at home, with the reduction of their country to a Soviet-Cuban puppet.

Memories are still fresh in our minds of the Ethiopian gun-boat crew that sought asylum in Somalia, handing themselves over to the Somali navy at Berbera.

Officers who commanded neighbouring units sometimes meet each other in Sudan or Somalia. Then they will begin reminiscing about their dark days at the front. About how each of them was planning his escape in isolation, being suspicious of the other. And about how unnecessary was all that precaution, since both had identical goals in mind.

Following that line of reasoning, and given the state of affairs inside Ethiopia, it is possible that Mengistu and his cronies are also thinking about escaping, but each one keeps these thoughts to himself for lack of trust in each other.

FRG WATER SUPPLY PROJECT AGREEMENT SIGNED

Mogadiscio HEEGAN in English 24 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Mogadishu, Thursday--The Somali Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany this week signed an agreement for providing the installation of water supply system for the north regions of Somalia, at the head-quarters of the Ministry of National Planning here.

The Federal Republic of Germany will provide 25,400,000 DM for the project.

The agreement was signed by Jaalle Ahmed Suleiman Abdalla member of the Political Committee of the SRSP Central Committee and Ambassador Martin Florin of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The project which is to be implemented by the German Agency for Foreign Aid (GTZ) is the second of it's kind to be carried in the country.

According to this agreement installation of water supply system will be provided for the cities of Dhusa Sareeb, Galkayo Garowe, Qardho and Eragabo.

In the first phase of the two country's cooperation in this field, water supply system was provided for Burso, Afgoi, Jowher, Balad and Merca.

The general Director of the Ministry of Planning Jaalle Hussein Elabe, GTZ representative Mr. Alfred Laszlob and officials from the Ministry of Planning and FRG Embassy were present at the signing ceremony.

Jaalle Ahmed and Dr. Florin spoke on the relations and cooperation between the two sides and expressed full satisfaction in their collaboration. -- SONNA

BRIEFS

EPLF KILLS--MOGADISHU, Thursday--A total of 1500 Ethiopian soldiers were killed or wounded and others forced to flee to the coastal plains when the Eritrea People's Liberation Front guerrillas engaged fascist Ethiopian troops in a fighting last Wednesday along the entire confrontation line of North-East Sahel, said a war communique released by the EPLF office here today. The communique further said that the guerrilla forces destroyed many tanks and other enemy property worth millions of dollars. [Text] [Mogadiscio HEEGAN in English 24 Feb 84 p 6]

NKOMATI ACCORD REPORTEDLY OBSCURES REAL TASK OF COUNTRY

MB190907 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Station commentary: "The Nkomati Milestone"]

[Text] During the past week, the scene in Southern Africa has been dominated-perhaps even somewhat distorted-by the signing on Friday of the Nkomati Accord, the peace agreement between South Africa and Mozambique. Seldom has an event stolen the spotlight so thoroughly, something which is inclined to cast in shadow certain corners of the political stage and draw attention away from other significant factors. However, the pomp and ceremony of the occasion-the festivities under the maroela trees, champagne, and flashing cameras-should not blind us to the total picture of South Africa and Southern Africa and particularly, the visions of the future which are entertained for this part of the world.

The accord cannot be regarded as an end in itself, but rather a milestone along the road towards a realistic improvement in relations, and this should be pursued both externally and internally. Indeed, the accord is symptomatic of a reappraisal by South Africa's enemies of the situation in South Africa. There should be no illusions about the fact that the anti-South African campaigns will continue, and possibly increase in intensity. However, both south and north of the Limpopo, there are those who genuinely favor long-term rapprochement with South Africa. The fact is that the principle of good neighborliness with neighboring countries has been an ideal of all South Africa's leaders since the time of Dr Verwoerd. This has been an ideal that has now been realized in part, in times of worsening relations and armed conflict.

The Nkomati Accord holds the promise of making viable the South African vision of a long-term reconciliation of conflicting interests in South Africa and the Southern African region. The condition is that such developments are based on securing community interests, whether these be national groups or population groups. In the final analysis, there has never been a single leader in the political history of South Africa who has indicated that he favors continued conflict of either a political or military nature as a lasting solution to the pressing interstate and national problems of the subcontinent.

Certainly the overriding task we have at home of bringing about a dispensation which ensures long-term community security has been obscured somewhat by the drama at Komatipoort. However, this remains the main task of today and tomorrow.

COMMENTARY NOTES AGREEMENT AIMED AT ANC RENAMO

MB161658 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Station commentary: "The Spirit of the Nkomati Accord"]

[Text] The Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique was not only signed today, but came into effect with the signing. What came through loud and clear in the speeches by both Prime Minister P. W. Botha and President Samora Machel was the commitment of the two governments to the permanence of the agreement in the interests of peaceful coexistence. There can be no question, Mr Botha said, of this agreement being a temporary expedient from which one side or the other might desire to derive unilateral advantage. President Machel said the parties had assumed before the world and history responsibility for guaranteeing the perpetuity of this agreement and eliminating the root causes of violence, war, and confrontation.

Ensuring the permanence of the agreement, of course, represents one of the major challenges that lie ahead. Remembering that the main ingredient of the agreement is the nonaggression pact it contains, the degree of permanence will depend on adherence to the security provisions. It is for this reason that the two countries are to appoint high-ranking representatives to serve on a joint commission with the aim of supervising and monitoring the implementation of the pact. The agreement makes no mention by name either the ANC or the Mozambique Resistence Movement, RENAMO, but they are obviously the organizations referred to in the article on security which may not use either country as a base for subversive activity.

The agreement makes provision for strict control to be exercised over the activities of these organizations. The obvious benefit to South Africa is that it will have control over the ANC as far as its terrorist activities are concerned and, while this remains the case, there is every prospect of the realization of the many mutual benefits to be derived from the new footing in relationships between the two countries.

SA WARNED OF MARXIST TRICKERY FROM MOZAMBIQUE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 10

[Text]

FEEDBACK information reaching Pretoria indicates there is growing optimism and hope for the future among Mozambicans as the South African and Mozambique governments move toward a peace and economic pact.

However, yesterday a veteran Mozambique missionary, Mr Edward Cain warned in an interview with The Citizen in Pretoria that South Africa "must go into any agreement with her eyes wide open and very wary of a Marxist confidence trick".

He said he himself was sceptical of the Maputo Government's intentions and in fact at one stage recently when a South African delegation was actually negotiating in Maputo he monitored "negative" Radio Maputo reports.

"Five times in three reports was it clearly stated that Mozambique would continue to give its backing to the African National Congress," he said.

Ordinary Blacks in Mozambique who were better informed welcomed, it seemed. the fact that

South Africa might once again be on a more amicable footing with Mozambique.

"But therein lies another danger — these people know that South Africa has a stable and orderly White government and if the present government in Mozambique is not changed for the better they might feel let down in a sense by South African Whites," Mr Cain said.

He said he had little confidence in the sincerity or morality of Mozambique's Marxist government.

The people of Mozambique were suffering under an unpopular, totally corrupt, inefficient and inept government.

"If the government could be replaced with a better and more competent one there might be hope for the future.

"But as it is a population of 12-million people is being ruled by a Marxist-dominated and Moscow-controlled party with barely more than 100 000 members," Mr Cain said.

SA-MOZAMBICAN DETENTE TO HELP SADCC

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 10

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

SOUTH Africa-Mozambique detente could be the sorely-needed catalyst which the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference of Black Frontline States had been needing, say strategists in Pretoria.

They say the establishment of a pattern of sound relationships between the two states could, in fact, result in a new wave of prosperity in the long term for the subcontinent.

The success of the SADCC hinges mainly on the contribution of Mozambique to the plan—long on the drawing boards of the nine Frontline States, but still far from getting off the ground.

The Africa Institute's Mr Herwig Rudolph, a top geo-political analyst, said the key to success of the SADCC lay in Mozambique's geographical position with its harbours and transport links with the landlocked other member states of the conference.

But a number of factors such as the civil war situation, lack of funds for raw materials and spares, shortage of administrative and technical manpower, and decaying infrastructures had so far prevented Mozambique from playing its pivotal role in the SADCC.

Foreign, and particularly Western interest in SADCC, had remained high. Not so much because of its aim of lessening economic dependence on South Africa, but for pragmatic reasons, he said.

The nine memberstates were linked by a fairly well developed transport, power and communication infrastructure, and their human and natural resources and economic potential made them the most economically viable region in Black Africa.

The SADCC envisaged a number of major projects for Mozambique, including improvements to the Nacala-Malawi line and an extension linking Malawi and Zambia; the rehabilitation of the important Beire — Mutare and the realignment of a considerable section of track.

In the pure South Africa-Mozambique context, improved relationships would certainly see sig-

nificant increases in trade.

In 1979 Mozambique's imports from South Africa amounted to 14,4 percent of total imports against 15,4 percent from all Comecon states.

Exports to South Africa stood at 4,9 percent, making her the fifth most important export market of the Black state.

Mr Rudolph said reduction of tensions in Southern Africa would naturally not deflect SADCC from aiming at greater collective self-reliance and reducing transport dependence on the Republic.

But a new economic relationship between the Republic and Mozambique and an understanding on security matters with other Frontline States would likely bring about changes in their tactical and strategic attitude to Pretoria.

"Decreasing infrastructural dependence on South Africa might conceivably make the inevitable increase in trade between individual SADCC members and South Africa more acceptable.

WARRING MSINGA CLANS SEEK PEACE

Meetings Called

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 9 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] The warring Msinga clans, the Amabomvana and the Majozi, are trying to make peace after decades of bloodshed, and preliminary meetings have been called for today in Natal and next week in Johannesburg.

News of the attempts comes in a week when seven people were gunned down in Johannesburg in the faction fights. Soweto police say more than 100 tribesmen have died in the faction fighting in Soweto since the beginning of 1983.

The war has spilled over from Msinga, Tugela Ferry in Natal, to the hostels and flatland of the Witwatersrand.

Today the chiefs of both warring clans hold separate meetings with their followers in Natal. Other meetings will be held in Johannesburg on March 14.

After these meetings the KwaZulu Chief Minister Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, will be invited to Msinga to talk to both factions.

The peace initiative started in early February when concerned members of both clans met and decided to send a joint delegation to Chief Buthelezi.

Chief Buthelezi has confirmed that in mid-February there was a meeting between the KwaZulu Cabinet, the chairman of the Msinga regional authority, Chief S. Mchunu and Chief Majozi and members of his council, and Chief Ngubane and members of his council that lasted several hours.

Police

"I agreed to go to Msinga after preliminary meetings have taken place both at Msinga and Johannesburg which will be presided over by Chief Mchunu," Chief Buthelezi said.

The delegation had suggested that:

--Police camps be pitched in areas where there is faction fighting;
--A special squad be set up to combat faction fighting; and [as published]

Factional Fighting Examined

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 9 Mar 84 p 5

[Editorial: "Bloody Faction Fights"]

[Text] The adage that charity begins at home is perhaps a tired and even lame one. It has its good points, nonetheless.

We are sure most people have been dismayed by the wanton violence that has overtaken Zulus in this faction fight business over the years. Some have tried to seek reasons or perhaps establish the cause behind such insane killings and the answers have hardly been helpful.

Whether it will be of any assistance to us to spot the cause of the malaise, and then work on possible solutions, is a moot point. What is important is that somebody has to be seen to be doing something instead of us folding our hands in resignation as these men are killing each other off.

It is thus with a sense of hope that we note there are people in Natal and KwaZulu who are trying to address the problem. It is also significant that government officials there are talking on an active interest in the talks at resolving this ugly tragedy.

There are moves in KwaZulu, we believe, to bring at least some of the factions together. It is unlikely that the deaths will be stopped after such talks, but at least if we are seen to be engaging in some measures to address the problem, this will go a long way at eventually reaching solutions. We would be the first to congratulate those responsible in calling together members of various factions to solve the onerous problem.

The faction killings have become a labyrinth of social, political, religious and economic factors working together. Some of the factors will obviously go beyond the ability of those now involved in the initiatives for peace. There is very little that can be done about some of the political problems that involve the shortage of land and overcrowding plus the spectre of starvation that stalks that land especially in times of drought. The little relief that can be given by the Government will not be able to stem the tide of violence, at least not for long.

But whatever happens in the rural areas of South Africa is of immediate importance to us in the urban areas. We are thus as equally affected by the killings, as is evidenced by the shootings in the cities. Lastly very soon the killings might become indiscriminate as the faction fighters run out of targets.

We thus believe there is a need for people in urban areas to link their efforts at resolving the problem with the efforts of our colleagues in the rural areas. The situation becomes even broader than that. These people who are killing themselves are our kith and often our kin.

As for the effect this has on the country, it might be minimal at present but very soon we will be having hundreds of vicious, angry and even bitter men and women amongst us; something that obviously is not conducive to stability in the land.

ACADEMIC SAYS BORDER PACTS WILL NOT SOLVE SECURITY PROBLEMS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 Mar 84 p 15

[Article by Bert van Hees]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. —
South Africa's "hawkish strategy" had paved the way for a new round of South African diplomacy in Southern Africa, Professor Deon Geldenhuys. author of The Diplomacy of Isolation — South Africa's Foreign Policy Making, said yesterday.

"However, to speak of a new era in South Africa's regional relations would be highly premature at this stage."

A number of factors could upset the new climate of moderation and, even if South Africa's regional environment were to become more favourable to the country's perceived interests than it had been for years, "this still would not solve the Republic's

principal political and security problems."

Prof Geldenhuys, a Rand Afrikaans University political scientist, said there could be little doubt that Angola, Mozambique and Lesotho had been influenced by South Africa's "use of military and/or economic pressure" in heeding Pretoria's demands that they deny sanctuary to African National Congress members.

However, other considerations must also have prompted recent shifts in policy by these countries.

These included Portuguese and American mediation, drought and floods in Mozambique, awareness of the need for improved economic ties with South Africa by Maputo and Lesotho and "pressing economic reasons for wanting peace" on the part of Angola.

were to take on the role of White Cubans in Southern Africa.

"Notwithstanding its power in the regional context, it is highly doubtful whether South Africa possesses the resources to dislodge several surrounding governments and sustain perhaps unpopular (puppet) successor regimes in the face of determined resistance," Prof Geldenhuys said.

On Pretoria's plans for a constellation of Southern African states, Prof Geldenhuys said the Republic "has not succeeded in creating exactly the kind of regional environment it desired."

South Africa had been compelled to scale down its plans for regional co-operation and "the grandiose scheme for a regional constellation of states has given way to an overriding concern with security."

Prof Geldenhuys said that, among the "imponderables" that could upset the new diplomatic climate were Soviet and Cuban influence over MPLA, possible deliberate or inadvertent jeopardising of relations by Unita in Angola or the MNR in Mozambique and difficulties in resolving the independence SWA question.

On claims of destabilisation of neighbouring states by South Africa, he said Pretoria "might have toyed with the idea of getting one or two neighbouring governments replaced by movements sympathetic to South Africa."

However, the country was probably keenly aware of the military, economic and diplomatic costs it would incur if its forces

This involved attempts at establishing a set of "rules of the game" in Southern Africa.

The most important rule was that states should not allow insurgents to use their territories to commit subversion against each other, while material support for rebel movements should also cease.

"Should Black states violate these rules, South Africa would respond with a variety of punitive measures,"

Prof Geidenhuys said.

"Should they, however, obey the rules, South Africa would be duty bound to do the same."

Another rule was that political and ideological differences should not obstruct economic interaction.

Black states would refrain from economic boycotts and South Africa "would likewise refrain from economic punishment or economic subversion," Prof Geldenhuys said.

COMMENT, REPORT ON INTERNAL ISSUES

Pretoria Parks

Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 1 Feb 84 p 18

[Editorial: "Wise Decision"]

[Text] It has been open season on the city fathers of Pretoria for a long time already with respect to the closing of 17 parks to non-whites. Criticism is coming from political circles on both the left and the right, and some blank rounds also come from people and groups who merely don't like Pretoria as a city --or even Transvaal as a province. Then the conservative label is easily brought up.

Meanwhile Johannesburg has the even greater problem on its hands of a black overcrowding at, for example, the Gillooly area and the Zoo lake. There God'waters are allowed to overrun God's field--with the result that only a handful of whites still dare venture there. But Johannesburg is getting a more sympathetic press coverage.

Even so, the fact remains that the Pretoria city council has always been frank about this matter. After due consideration and investigation, certain steps were decided on, including that of reserving 17 parks for use by whites and of exercising full supervision and control in 14 other parks.

One should realize that the general intention was to try to act in a fair and just manner toward all population groups, but simultaneously to face up to reality—the reality of unbridled overcrowding and the subsequent tensions arising from that.

On the other hand, it is just as true that Pretoria, being the capital, should set an example in a South Africa which irrevocably has placed itself on the road of conciliation and consultation between population groups. One should also always keep in mind the fact that the Pretoria parks problem is so sensitive that it reverberates abroad, for example in the Reagan administration in the United States.

In the light of that, his paper welcomes the decision of the management committee to temporarily postpone the closing of the 17 parks to non-whites.

Instead of the drastic decision to close the 17 parks under discussion, supervision and control will be increased there. Thus the burden of proof is placed on all park users to provide a counter performance to this wise and considered decision.

No reasonable person can expect more of the Pretoria city council under the current circumstances.

Views of Soweto Mayor

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 31 Jan 84 p 11

[Report by At Viljoen: "Tshabalala Wants to Lead Soweto Gradually toward Success"]

[Text] Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, the mayor of Soweto, shares his predecessor's ideal of developing South Africa's largest black city on its own power into a showcase of an increased quality of life. Only, he is willing to go slowly and carefully.

The new mayor of Soweto is said to be a millionaire, but he is of the opinion that for the time being a humble standard of living must remain a prerequisite for Soweto's inhabitants.

DIE VADERLAND had a talk with the 75-year old Mr Tshabalala after one month of practical experience with Soweto as an independent municipality under the law on black government.

Mr Tshabalala is a self-made businessman with considerable interests in liquor-, automobile-, and commercial businesses, but it is clear that he wants to turn over every penny when it is a matter of Soweto's finances. By comparison, he even lets his predecessor, Mr. David Thebehali, seem very extravagant!

Mr Tshabalala thinks, for example, that Soweto's electricity project of almost 160 million rands--considered to be the first humble step toward a better quality of life in Soweto by Mr Thebehali--is too ambitious for the pockets of his tax-payers. "First food and then lights," he says.

Even more conspicuous is his total lack of political radicalism, even of political priorities. In current language usage Mr Tshabalala could be labeled a "moderate," with an implicit philosophy of "first food, then political rights."

Politically speaking, he is entirely happy with the greater, primarily administrative powers which accompany Soweto's municipal status. He does not make claims to direct political power; for that matter, he is slow in expressing himself on any increased political rights desired. At most he asks for the right for "the urban black" to be seated in the President's Council; there, he believes, the desired form of official black representation can be discussed.

He has no patience with black radicalism, and violence is just as ugly a word to him as it is to the staunchest member of the establishment. For that matter, as part of the establishment, he is now at the receiving end of violence—as he had to find out recently when his house was damaged by "nasty boys."

With respect to the financing of black local governments, it is thought that they should become self-sufficient as soon as possible. Tshabalala completely agrees with that—only he wants to go about it more slowly and carefully than his predecessor.

Mr Tshabalala plans to obtain the necessary financing in the following ways:

--A formula must be found according to which the general sales tax paid by the over 1 million inhabitants of Soweto outside of their city limits--thus in the "white area," on different products--is to be returned to the Soweto council as Soweto's own rightful income. If that is accepted, it will be the first time for such a system to be applied here.

--The establishment of businesses, both large and small, must be rapidly increased in Soweto. According to Tshabalala the repeal of limitations on black trade, at the stipulated basis of a maximum of 49 percent white capital, has opened the road to rapid progress.

--Additional measures such as the transfer of all liquor stores to the city council (not very capitalistic, he admits, but necessary under the current circumstances) and the possible levying of a toll fee for arrival in his city.

As to municipal services, which used to be carried out by administrative councils, Mr Tshabalala wants to give plenty of leeway to free enterprise by sub-contracting as many services as possible to private parties.

He is less enthusiastic about the establishment of industry in Soweto since he sees no advantage to competing with white industry.

However, he is not as sure as before of whether these measures will be adequate to meet his election promise of decreased taxes.

Mr Tshabalala completely agrees with the idea that, with respect to the quality of life, Soweto, as the largest black city in South Africa, ought to be the showcase of the success of local independent governing authorities—only he does not want to hurry the process too much.

Status of Black Universities

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 7 Feb 84 p 9

[Article by Cas van Rensburg: "Black Universities: Symbol of White Rejection"]

[Text] On the day white universities were closed to blacks, a tragic error in judgment was committed writes Professor Johan Boshoff, former rector of the University of the North, in the most recent issue of WORD AND DEED, the reformatory monthly paper.

In the first of a series of articles on black universities and students, Professor Boshoff writes that he cannot definitely answer "yes" either to the question of whether it was right to establish the black university.

Professor Boshoff first writes about the climate in black universities where young students hissed when he wanted to speak Afrikaans during a student dance. At the same time white merchants told him in letters that they did not want students to try on clothes. Usually there were also problems with the students' attending funerals of white professors.

He wrote about the clothes-trying incident to, amongst others, the Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce. The latter reacted very positively and invited him to address its members.

"The Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce completely ignored my letter."

At the same time he wrote the church council concerned about the funeral incident because he thought such situations must be avoided in one's own interest. He asked to meet them to discuss the problem and to find a way of dealing with the situation which would cause less embarrassment. "That request was rejected."

Professor Boshoff points out that at the unversity library the students have uncensored access to any possible book and magazine and thus also to the thinking of the Western world. Foreign visitors have expressed their surprise about that.

"The black students are studying with such reading material freely at their disposition, and then they are not allowed to try on clothes and shoes in stores or attend the funeral of their teacher simply because they are black, and for no other reason:

"And then the church council of a community in your own church refuses to discuss that with you!" writes Professor Boshoff.

"The thinking of the Western world: Nowhere, literally nowhere, does that thinking accept the situation in our country. Hundreds of students have been and are being influenced by that. In the future those hundreds will be thousands. Here it is a matter of the intellectual leaders of nations, of thousands and many more thousands of people who will become teachers. Should I clarify the significance of that to Afrikaners?" he asks.

He wants to know whether it was right to found the University of the North and to close white universities to blacks against the warning of wise people.

According to him, there is no doubt that the campuses of black universities caused hostility right from the beginning. "It does not require any special prophetic insight to state that this hostility will not decrease with the increase of those universities unless their products can be accommodated in the South African society in a manner which satisfies them."

According to Professor Boshoff's article, he only found the answer to his question of why blacks reject the universities in his last few months as rector. He says that a black staff member pointed out to him that the Afrikaners were not honest in their decision to establish black universities at a stage when "the number of black matriculants was not even enough to decently supply the existing university, Fort Hare."

"You did not really want to do it. But you were prepared to spend millions of rands on it and to isolate people whom you needed in your own universities for that task only because you did not want to associate with us as people The [black] universities are a symbol to us of how you reject us as people, and therefore we reject them," the staffmember said, according to Professor Boshoff.

ROLES OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY, PROGRESSIVE FEDERAL PARTY

Treurnicht's Intentions Questioned

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 6 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "The Fighter"]

[Text] One of the rather unfortunate characteristics of the no-confidence debate during the first week of the parliamentary session was Dr Andries Treurnicht's attitude of "the fight is continuing" and of the Conservative Party being the mouthpiece of the people "who want to live in freedom and justice." Not only that—the battle will rage "until we die or conquer."

This sounds like true leadership--only, it's a pity that those high words are used to disguise such low intentions.

The fight Dr Treurnicht is looking for is least of all on behalf of freedom and justice. It is nothing but a petty striving for domination over other people. The Conservative Party has so little faith in its ability to unite members of other population groups in a front of moderate people who see a civilized co-existence as the only salvation for South Africa that, for example, it wants to forcefully bundle up colored people in a homeland.

The words "freedom" and "justice" at best sound false in the mouth of politicians who want to elevate the repression of others to a virtue . . . and mislead the white people into believing that it is an ideal one should die for if one cannot conquer.

Dr Treurnicht must be blinded by his narrow political vision if he can talk in that manner with the lessons of the referendum still fresh in mind. In the same debate Minister Barend du Plessis said that the voters have shown that they do not want to place their future in the hands of extremists.

Voters cannot but feel instinctively that the Conservative Party is instead engaging in a political extremism which will perpetuate deep-seated antagonism and suspicion rather than mitigate it. In one respect he is right: in predicting fighting. What he does not understand is that that is exactly why he and his party are being increasingly rejected.

When will Dr Treurnicht discover that he is fighting the wrong battle?

PFP Opposition Role

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 2 Feb 84 p 16

[Editorial: "Is This Intimidation?"]

[Text] For several reasons, the role of the Progressive Federal Party as official opposition, to which Minister Chris Heunig referred in the no-confidence debate in parliament yesterday afternoon, is timely in 1984 politics.

The PFP has gained a reputation for the negative and unyielding manner in which it has fought the arrival of the new Constitution with every speck of power at its disposition. When it got a thrashing in the referendum, it suddenly changed about and decided at its congress to cooperate "constructively" within the rejectable new system.

Of course one is interested in how it is planning to do that. People have wondered how it is going to change its old techniques and conditioned word choices. What will the new strategy, differing so greatly from the old one, look like and how will it be applied in practice?

When those tests are applied, there is considerable disappointment because the PFP has not really shown signs yet that it is able to free itself from the old garb of negativism and develop a new, positive style. Everything sounds like the old PFP which together with some of its English-speaking mouthpieces, continues to sing the same old tune.

Further the PFP also draws attention to itself with its insinuations that the role of the opposition is vague in the new system and will be berated. That is contrary to what is written in the Constitution itself and to the pointed assurances of the Government in that context. The only deduction one can make is that this is being done intentionally in order to create the impression that the new system is less democratic and has dictatorial tendencies.

Is this an attempt to intimidate colored people and Asians who still have to give their opinion on the new system in elections? Are those groups, which exactly now are getting the opportunity to bring a variety of new thoughts into the parliamentary debate, being made to believe that the Government is not going to take any notice of other people's opinions?

Under those circumstances it is very relevant to ask whether perhaps the real intention of the PFP, which itself has tried to participate constructively with idle words, is not to have the Coloreds and Asians throw themselves into the new system submissively.

Isn't it true that the sympathy of some members of its leftist power clique lies with those elements who want to boycott the coming colored and Asian elections and thus destroy future participation?

The PFP still has to prove through its deeds that it has good intentions for the new system.

8700 CSO: 3401/45

CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICY

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 8 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Economic Mismanagement"]

[Text] During the past 12 or 13 years the Government's policy of repetitious inflation and deflation of the money supply has had the predictable, if not calculated, result that the economy has been twisted to the advantage of certain components of society and to the serious disadvantage of other of its components.

The money supply has increased; the living standard of non-whites has drastically increased, but the white population has impoverished. The purchasing power of wage earners in the public sector has been continually decreasing due to increasing prices. Therefore they have been forced to make more and more debts in order to maintain their standard of living, and after they had gone into considerable debt, the interest rate increased from 7 percent in February 1981 to the current usurious interest level of 20 percent or more.

Similarly, interest on installment-buying transactions increased to 28 percent already in 1983: At the same time reports started coming about the shocking number of citations due to unpaid debts: currently 64,000 per month. The total amount of money involved in court orders to pay debts now is over 18 million rands per month--28 percent more than last year and twice as much as in 1980.

Those stricken by this are almost exclusively white families. They have already started to use their savings, and savings have decreased to the lowest level since World War II. Women have to work full-time, and children cannot be afforded.

The whites in cities and villages are further suffering from the high interest on home mortgages. As of 1 February 1984, the interest rate on loans of 40,000 to 60,000 rands was increased to 16.75 percent per year and on loans of over 60,000 rands to 18.75 percent per year.

There are yet two other factors. One is that building associations allow loans of under 60,000 rands only very rarely. The other is that, according to newspaper reports, the average price of a home has risen from 35,000 rands in 1979 to 79,000 rands in 1982 and 90,000 rands in 1983.

Even a loan of 42,000 rands net at an interest rate of 17.25 percent per year requires payments of 654 rands per month, and over a period of 20 years a borrower

will pay 156,960 rands. But even just to qualify for such a loan, an applicant for a mortgage will have to prove that he has a monthly income of 2,615 rands. How many young, married men can do this?

On a loan of 85,000 rands the monthly payment amounts to 1,415 rands, and over a period of 20 years that borrower pays 339,600 rands. But to qualify for such a loan of 85,000 rands he has to prove that he has a monthly income of 5,660 rands. Thus almost 99 percent of young people under 30 years old are eliminated.

Thus our young people are robbed of the opportunity to own a home and have a family. That is what the National Party has cost our people the past 12 years.

The farmers are in just as miserable a position. Due to inadequate production prices and continually increasing costs of farm implements, farmers are going more and more into debt--1,500 million rands in 1972, 3,100 million rands in 1979 and over 5,000 million rands in 1983.

The debt burden has increased with these giant leaps while farmers have been forced off their farms from 1971 to 1981 at an average of 40 per week due to the distorted economy.

Certain farmers have been able to keep going with Farmers' Bank interests at 7 percent per year. But in January 1982 that interest rate was increased by 57 percent—up to 10 percent on old loans and 11 percent on new loans. As of 1 September 1982, only 8 months later, the interest rate on Farmers' Bank loans was 17.25 percent per year—an increase of over 140 percent in the 8 months since January 1982.

The farmers have been caught in the stranglehold of the economic policy of the National Party to such an extent that thousands of them have now been forced into poverty.

That is the price the Afrikaner people are paying for the current Hoggenheimer [unscrupulous capitalist] government. The new bosses require the government to render the Afrikaner people economically equal with non-whites, so that the Afrikaners will also accept social and political equalization in order to thus destroy Afrikaner nationalism to the core.

The HNP [Herstigte Nationale Party] makes it clear that when this government is defeated and there is once again an Afrikaans national government under the leadership of the HNP, the economic injustice of the past 12 years will be corrected. The same policy that the NP pursued after 1948 to fight inflation, namely price control, payment of living costs subsidies and strict control over the money supply will again be pursued.

Thereby the millions which are being lost today through tax evasion will be recovered, the liberality of subsidies and tax allowances to large enterprises will be halted, the tax system will be revised to make large monopolies carry their just share of the financial burden, the ridiculous policy to lend money to indigent states at interest rates of 5 percent and below and then borrow money abroad at 16 percent will be stopped, and the large-scale spending on non-white population groups will be drastically revised.

In that manner, money will become available for young white couples to buy homes and raise families. In that manner money will also become available to help farmers stay on their farms and help young farmers to establish themselves on farms.

However, the current government first has to be removed from power. The economic misconceptions created by it and bad practices coupled to those will hasten the collapse of this washed-out NP government.

8700 CSO: 3401/45

SCHOOLS MAY CLOSE UNLESS CRADOCK STUDENTS RETURN TO CLASSES

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 6 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] PUPILS at four schools in Cradock, near Port Elizabeth, who have boycotted classes since February 3, now face the prospect of the schools closing down unless pupils return to classes by March 13.

Four schools are affected by the boycott—
a high school, a secondary and two higher primary schools. About
2 000 pupils and more than 50 teachers are affected.

The students have demanded a student representative council, but sources in the area said the cause of the boycott was the dismissal of a teacher, Mr Matthew Goniwe, for "misconduct." Mr Goniwe refused to comply with a transfer from the area to Graaf Reinet, an area from which he requested a transfer a year ago.

Feeling in the township is that Mr Goniwe was transferred from Cradock to Graaff Reinet for participating in the affairs of the Cradock Civic Association. Mr Goniwe is a former Robben Island prisoner and served five years for political offences.

A point that the students have made is that Mr Goniwe is a BA graduate and they can not afford to have competent teachers trans-

ferred. There are only three graduates in the area, including Mr Goniwe. All other high and secondary school teachers do not have degrees.

Mr Job Schoeman, Chief Public Relations Officer of the Department of Education and Training, confirmed yesterday that parents of the pupils had been sent letters warning them that unless pupils return to classes by March 13 the schools would be permanently closed.

He also explained that Mr Goniwe was acting principal at Sam Chali Secondary School in Cradock and had been transferred to Graaff Reinet to head a department of mathematics and science at a local high school. "This was not a demotion and did not involve any loss in salary," he said.

He refused to move to the new school and was then dismissed after being given a warning of 14 days in terms of regulations.

In Port Elizabeth pupils at seven schools have been boycotting classes since last week in protest at lack of class-room accommodation and the newly introduced age limit on registration.

The boycott began on Wednesday, when 500 pupils walked out of classes at the Newell High School in New Brighton. They were joined later that day by 100 pupils from the nearby Cowan High School.

Five other schools joined the boycott on Thursday. They are the Tamasanqa Senior Secondary, Mzontsundu Senior Secondary School, Loyisi High School, Phakamisa High School and the Molefe Higher Primary School.

Mr Qaqawuli Godolozi, chairman of the Crisis in Education Committee and president of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation, said a decision whether or not to continue the class boycott would be taken at a meeting, organised by the committee and the Congress of South African Students (Cosas).

Yesterday Mr G Merbold, the regional director of Education and Training in Port Elizabeth and other officials of the Department were trying to place pupils — who could not previously be accommodated — in schools.

Pupils who were still without accommodation were asked by Mr Merbold to report to the Mathodlana Higher Primary School in Kwazakhele.

Mr Godolozi said that 84 pupils reported at Mathodlana yesterday — seven for Standard Six, seven for Standard Seven, 36 for Standard Eight and 16 for Standard 10.

He said he hoped all the pupils would be placed.

Mr Godolozi said he was disturbed by reports from some pupils at Kwazakhele High School which alleged that they had been chased away by their principal, Mr D Gcilitshane.

VENDA SECURITY POLICE VIOLENCE DENOUNCED

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 8 Mar 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Venda Terror"]

[Text] The savage and often frightening methods used by security police in the homelands took centre stage once more this week when grim stories of the suffering of villagers were reported in Venda.

The security police in Venda, through one reason or the other, have become even more fearsome than such police outfits elsewhere in the rest of the country.

Venda is placed in a rather unfortunate strategic position for its people, being almost on the borders of Zimbabwe and South Africa. Such situations are normally fraught with danger and plain tragedy for the locals.

The manner of operation of Venda security police came into focus in the case of three Lutheran church priests who were awarded damages amounting to R13 500 after an out of court settlement in an action against the Venda National Force.

The priests, Dean Tshenuwani Simon Farisani, the Rev Ndanganeni Petros Phaswana and the Rev Mbulaheni Phineas Phosiwa were awarded the amount plus costs after alleged assaults while in detention during November 1981 and May 1982.

The most horrid part in this event was the case involving the death in detention of one Isaac Tshifiwa Moufhe, who died under unpleasant circumstances in a cell in Venda in 1982.

His family was last year awarded a staggering R150 000 in an action against the Venda National Force. As he cannot be resurrected, we hope the payment of such a huge sum will serve as a deterrent to security police action in that area.

At about the time of the court hearing into the circumstances surrounding the detention of the priests—an event which incidentally grabbed international focus—another tragic story involving simple farmers caught in the cross—fire of low intensity civil war was being played out, in Sibasa, Venda. A small—time farmer, most likely completely bewildered by events above his simple

comprehension, was eventually sentenced to five years' imprisonment for treason. Four years and four months of the sentence was suspended.

Another farmer who had been arrested at about the same time has since died in detention. That gives a rather sordid history of detention in this part of the country.

The painful thing is to see how people who should otherwise be considered the innocent victims of events, get caught up in this kind of struggle. They hardly have any sense, it would seem, of the significance, militarily and otherwise of their geographic situation.

We shudder to think of the complete astonishment and agony suffered by tribesmen and agony suffered by tribesmen who are very far removed from the dialectics of the situation, who are all of a sudden find themselves in the hands of the police and later in court charged with treason. It is no doubt part of the price that people all over the world have had to pay under similar circumstances of stress and strain.

'STORMY' INDIAN SOLIDARITY PARTY MEETING HELD

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 17

[Text]

DURBAN. — Tempers flared at a stormy meeting of South Africa's newest Indian political party, Solidarity, over the party's decision to opt for an election instead of a referendum on the new constitution.

The meeting, in the Mountview Community Hall in Verulam on Wednesday night, was attended by about 200 people.

Chairman Mr Ismail Kathrada was forced to bring the meeting to an abrupt end when a group in the audience became disorderly during question time.

The meeting was called to launch the party's parliamentary election campaign for the House of Delegates.

Mr Kathrada said afterwards that he objected to the manner in which a small group in the audience questioned the party's chairman, Mr Pat Poovalingam, and vicechairman, Mr J N Reddy.

He said that instead of posing direct questions they were criticising the party's decision to opt for an election.

Earlier, Mr Poovalingam said that in spite of all its disabilities and imperfections, the 1983 constitution gave Indians and Coloureds the opportunity to participate in the political decision-making machinery at parliamentary level.

Solidarity supported an election instead of a referendum because it would save time and money.

He said Solidarity aimed to become the ruling party in the House of Delegates and together with the Labour Party and the PFP, could become the official opposition to the National Party

In spite of all its disabilities and imperfections, the 1983 constitution gave Indians and Coloureds the opportunity to participate in the political decision-making machinery at parliamentary level.

Mr Reddy told the meeting that the community faced two options: change through violent revolution or through peaceful means. Solidarity chose the latter because it wanted peaceful change. — Sapa.

SUCCESS OF ARMS INDUSTRY HAILED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Arms for Sale"]

[Text] We've previously expressed our pride in the way in which our arms industry has been able to enter the international arms market.

Not that we cherish the idea that we may be "merchants of death,"

But the fact is that South Africa is the victim of a United Nations arms embargo.

If it had not built up an efficient arms industry, it would have been at the mercy of its enemies.

Furthermore, if it hadn't to fight a war on the South West African-Angolan border, it would not have been able to develop armaments that could be tested in actual war conditions and refined to the extent that they are among the best of their kind to be found anywhere.

Not that South Africa, as a peace-loving nation, has ever wanted to involve itself in conflicts of this nature.

We have no territorial ambitions. We do not accept, without heartbreak, the loss of lives on the border.

We would rather our young men were able to pursue their careers in peace than have to risk life and limb fighting to protect South West Africa from terrorist attack.

Best Possible

But if we have to fight, then let's fight with the best arms possible, and the armaments indestry has seen to it that we have precisely those arms.

The first time Armscor displayed weapons at a major international exhibition was at the Defendory (Defence) Expo '82 in Athens in 1982.

The showpiece was the giant 13-ton G5 field gun which is capable of firing 155 mm shells at a range of 40 km. South Africa also sought to push sales of the G6, which is the G5 mounted on a six-wheel vehicle and capable of great mobility.

Other products for the world market included the Ratel infantry vehicle, sophisticated communications equipment, missiles and 127 mm artillery rockets based on the Stalin Organ.

Unfortunately, South Africa was ordered out of the show in highly controversial circumstances, but not before its weapons had made a great impact on buyers.

Now South Africa has put its armaments on display at an international air show in Santiago, Chile. It is exhibiting its highly advanced Kikri air-to-air missile and a range of sophisticated electronic equipment and ammunition.

Also on show is Armscor's "look and shoot" flyer's helmet with which a pilot can aim a missile just by looking at the target.

Third in World

Speaking in Santiago, the chairman of Armscor, Commandant PG Marais, said that thanks to the UN arms embargo, South Africa had gone from producing virtually no armaments to making 143 types of ammunition.

"When it comes to ammunition, we must be a candidate for third place (in the world) after the United States and Russia."

In many areas, he said, South Africa was among the top five arms-producing countries.

"Armscor today provides the South African Defence Force with almost 100 percent of its equipment for its land forces and all weapons systems for its Air Force."

It produces all arms, ammunition and missile systems for its Navy.

Naturally, Commandant Marais is cagey about the countries showing interest in South Africa's armaments, but our sophistication in military hardware is bound to attract buyers.

If Armscor achieves annual sales of between R100-million and R150-million, this will go some way towards recovering part of the cost of developing our armaments.

All this because the world has forced South Africa to look after itself by building up its own armaments industry.

And we have done this with remarkable success.

QUARTER OF NATION DEVASTATED BY DROUGHT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Fred de Lange]

[Text] The South African Agricultural Union yesterday called on the Government to declare a quarter of South Africa a disaster area, due to the continued drought.

This are stretches from Messina in the northern Transvaal to Hopetown in the northern Cape. In the western rainfall areas at least 58 districts are seriously affected by the drought and in eastern Transvaal about 6.36 million hectare of agricultural land is seriously affected.

The Union's general council met with the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, and the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Sarel Hayward yesterday morning.

At the meeting Mr Wentzel was presented with a report on the drought position and proposals for extensive and comprehensive aid measures for the agricultural section.

In the report the union proposed that the Government declare the entire drought-stricken area, which covers about 34 million ha, a disaster area.

The Government was also asked to expand existing aid schemes, including more funds for the consolidation of farmers' debts and a further reduction in net interest rates.

The current interest rate of both cooperations and other financial institutions was described as a major stumbling block to farmers wishing to stay on their farms.

Other proposals include aid to cooperatives to enable them to continue to provide production credit, expansion of schemes administered by the Division of Financial Assistance, and the extension of the six-year cooperative carry-over credit scheme, to 10 years.

The union also proposed the Government help farmers with cash flow problems and institute measures aimed at helping the livestock, dairy, and citrus industries, as well as other sectors of the agricultural industry.

At a press conference after the meeting, the president of the SAAU, Mr Jaap Wilkens, said that drought-stricken farmers realise that they will also be called on to help themselves, but at this stage it was impossible to continue without Government aid.

He pointed out that the cumulative effect of successive disasters, which included drought, floods and hail damage, had caused a progressive deterioration in the financial position of farmers in the affected areas.

"This can be summed up as a serious cash flow problem and the rapid increase of carry-over debts on which very high interest must be paid. The financial ability of the producers has therefore deteriorated seriously. Without bridging measures, which will succeed in aiding the farmer to overcome the severe drought, a large percentage will not be able to stay in the industry or recover financially," he said.

The union felt that farmers who have the potential to stay in the industry and who will eventually be able to recover financially, should be assited to continue farming. [as published]

"It must be remembered that any problem in the agricultural sector should be seen as a problem of the country as a whole, because of the links the sector has with the rest of the Republic's economy," Mr Wilkens added.

IMPROVED PROFITABILITY OF HARBORS PROPOSED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

SOUTH Africa's harbours could be made even more profitable through a more businesslike approach, Mr John Malcomess (PFP, Port Elizabeth Central) said.

Speaking in committee on the SA Transport Services Appropriation Bill, he suggested that profitability could be enhanced by encouraging more ships to bunker at South Africa's "half-empty" harbours and by granting concessions to shipbreakers to use harbours at lower rates.

Mr Malcomess said nothing was at present being done to encourage ships passing the Cape to dock, and that vessels were in fact being discouraged by high harbour rates.

If more traffic was obtained, the food, fuel and water sold would bring in foreign currency as well as extra revenue for the harbours.

Mr Malcomess said shipbreaking was profitable and very labour-intensive and could provide many jobs in high unemployment areas such as East London and Port Elizabeth. However, tariff concessions would be necessary because of the time involved.

Mr Malcomess said the Uni-

corn Shipping Line had devised a technique for using synthol, a by-product of the Sasol process, as fuel for its ships.

"What is Sats doing about this? They have a large fleet of harbour vessels which could perhaps use synthol. The saving in cost could be considerable," he said.

On air services, he said South African Airways "persisted" in flying to most of the capitals of Europe despite losses incurred by a low passenger rate on some of the routes.

Mr Myburgh Streicher (NP De Kuilen) said it would be difficult to encourage ships to use South African harbours when there were few vessels sailing due to the recession.

Mr Malcommes should rather have asked whether South Africa would be able to handle additional traffic if the Suez Canal were closed as a result of the Gulf War.

He believed the improvement made to South African harbours over the past few years would enable them to cope admirably with such traffic, Mr Streicher said.

MOVE TO REDUCE LIVESTOCK DISCUSSED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 8

[Text]

THE Meat Board has called an emergency meeting to discuss measures to reduce the numbers of Livestock on farms affected by the drought.

The chairman of the National Meat Committee of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr Fanie van Rensburg, announced in Pretoria yesterday that unless more cattle were slaughtered and marketed, farmers would face financial ruin because of a shortage of feed.

Mr Van Rensburg said even if failed grain crops were used as feed, all available stocks would be used by June or July.

There are only two options open to cattle farmers. - either to shift cattle to areas not affected by the drought or to slaughter and market.

"Unfortunately, it is not always possible to move the cattle to other areas and slaughtering seems to be the only practical solution."

He said the Meat Board had already started slaughtering an additional 600 cattle in the Northern Cape as part of a stock reduction scheme and was planning to increase this by a further 100 on March 16.

In Natal, an additional 1 500 cattle are to be slaughtered at Cato Ridge on March 16.

Mr Van Rensburg said the Meat Board would probably market the excess the same way as in the past, by reducing prices drastically.

Moves are also under way to try to force the Meat Board to can a large part of the excess, thereby saving producers the cost of the excess in cold storage.

"At least 100 000 head have to be dealt with in one way or another," he

said.

Beef producers, particularly in the drought stricken areas, are pressing daily for permits and permission to slaughter massive sections of their herds as they prepare to

face their fourth successive drought winter, reports Keith Abendroth.

The general manager of the Meat Board, Dr P H Coetzee, said in Pretoria yesterday that already the Board was slaughtering more cattle each week than the market could ab-

Already, he said, the Board was being forced to remove large numbers of carcasses weekly from auction room floors as surpluses.

He said the Board was now urgently investigating further possibilities of stepping up slaughtering of cattle above the present capacity, to meet farmers' needs.

A preliminary survey, he said, had revealed that about 100 000 cattle were already involved in the "emergency situation"

Dr Coetzee said the Board appreciated the decision of Natal cattle producers and farmers in the Eastern Free State to help farmers in drought-stricken areas.

Natal cattle producers had unanimously decided to waive the slaughtering of 1 500 of their own cattle each week at the Cato

Ridge abattoir to allow Transvaal farmers, who were no longer able to feed their cattle, access to the market.

At the same time, farmers in the Eastern Free State who were in a favourable position to pile up stockfeed had offered to make feed available to farmers in the Western Free State who were facing serious fodder shortages.

This would enable the Western Free State farmers to keep back some of their stock, to lighten

pressure.

Dr Coetzee said the Board had recommended that farmers in the far Northern Transvaal. Northern Cape and the Western Transvaal border areas who were in serious difficulties to contact their local farmers' associations or district agricultural unions as soon as possible to obtain permits.

The Ment Board would, with the local farmers' associations, determine the merit of each application and grant permits accordingly.

TRADE SURPLUS REGISTERED AS IMPORTS DECREASE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Howard Preece]

[Text]

THERE was a surplus on the balance of trade in January thanks to an appreciable downturn in imports and an upturn in ex-

According to preliminary figures from Customs and Excise exports last month were R1,849bn and imports R1,673bn to give a balance of R156m.

That compares with a deficit of R199m in December — the first time the country had been in the red on Customs calculations since August 1962.

Although these figures include all gold sales, imports of oil and military equipment, they do not include services transactions.

South Afr'ca is at present running a net services shortfall — from dividends, interest, shipping, insurance, tourism and others - of about R300m a month.

Allowing for that it seems as though the country had an overall deficit on the current account of the balance in January this year.

Customs figures are provisional and should be treated with caution.

Mr Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance, has disclosed that there was a current account deficit in the last quarter of 1983. He has said that for the year as a whole there was a surplus of about R500m. According to the Intest Reserve
Bank quarterly balletin the surplus
for the first three quarters of last
year was R1,387hn. That means the
deficit in the last quarter was a
whopping R887m.

It is clear from the Customs figures that imports are on an upward
trend even though they declined in
January compared with December.

Monthly imports in 1983 were:

| Monthly imports in | 1963 were: |
|--------------------|------------|
| January | R1 303m |
| February | R1 000m |
| March | R1 272m |
| April | R1 111m |
| May | R1 218m |
| June | R1 450m |
| July | R1 134m |
| August | R1 539m |
| September | R1 317m |
| October | R1 513m |
| November | R1 441m |
| December | R1 882m |
| | |

That gives averages for the quarters as First R1 212m Second R1 200m Third R1 327m R1 612m **Fourth**

The Reserve Bank has also point-ed out: "The increase in imports in the third quarter was entirely due to a higher volume of imported goods. Import prices actually de-clined because of the low rates of inflation of South Africa's main

trading partners."

Seen in the context of those four quarters the January import bill of R1,673tm seems to be a continuation

of the upturn in import levels even though it is well down on the De-cember figure.

There is some reason for opti-

mism in the good export level for

January.

Monthly export figures from Customs since the beginning of 1983

| January | R1 639m |
|--------------|---------|
| February | R1 660m |
| March | R1 917m |
| April | R1 743m |
| May | R1 702m |
| June | R1 603m |
| July | R1 720m |
| August | R1 721m |
| September | R1 674m |
| October | R1 551m |
| November | R1 871m |
| December | R1 683m |
| January 1984 | R1 849m |
| | |

The pattern is erratic. In part that can be explained by statistical quirks such as that in several months sales of some commodities are grouped in one mouth's data.

The fluctuations of gold and the rand/dollar exchange rate can also have have sharp short-term effects as well as making for longer-term changes.

Put the whole picture together and it looks as though South Africa cannot count on any current account balance of payments sur-plus this year unless gold goes sur-prisingly high.

BRIEFS

AFRIKANERVOLKSWAG PROVISIONAL NAME—The new Afrikaner cultural organisation started by Professor Carel Boshoff has been provisionally named "Die Afrikaner-volkswag." Prof Boshoff said a steering committee of the organisation had after considering a number of names, decided to recommend to the organisation's founding congress on May 4 and 5 the name should be "Die Afrikanervolkswag." The congress would have the final say on what the name would be. Prof Boshoff said first mention of the name "Die Afrikanervolkswag" had been made in a circular sent off yesterday to members countrywide in which they among others were informed about the agenda for the founding congress. There was no indication yet of how many people would turn up at the founding congress, which is scheduled to be held in the Skilpadsaal in Pretoria—the same venue where the Conservative Party founding congress was held. Prof Boshoff yesterday stressed the new Afrikaner cultural organisation would be nonpolitical.

[Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 8]

GROUP AREAS PROSECUTIONS--Prosecutions instituted in Johannesburg in terms of the Group Areas Act between January 1, 1978 and February 2 this year totaled 939, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee, said. In a written reply to a question by Mr Alf Widman (PFP Hillbrow) he said 799 of these prosecutions had been withdrawn after "the reasons for the prosecutions have fallen away." Four prosecutions were still pending in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court. In 1983 there had been 46 prosecutions against Coloured and Indian people in Johannesburg, 42 of which had been withdrawn because the "reasons have fallen away." There were no readily available figures for the whole of South Africa, the Minister said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 Mar 84 p 4]

FOREIGN BLACK STUDENTS--Of the 1,928 foreign Black students enrolled at South African universities during 1982, a total of 1,211 were residents in the independent national states, the Minister of National Education, Prof Gerrit Viljoen, said yesterday in written reply to a question by Mr Pat Rogers (NRP King William's Town). The remaining 717 students had come from Lesotho, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Europe and other countries in Africa. Some 1,792 students out of the total had enrolled at Unisa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 Mar 84 p 4]

WHITES WORK FOR STATE--Just over 35 percent of the gainfully employed White population was directly employed by the State, according to latest statistics, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr F. W. de Klerk, said. Similar figures

for Coloureds, Indians, and Blacks were 25.5 percent, 16.5 percent and 19.4 percent respectively, he said in a written reply to a question from Mrs Helen Suzman. The figures were from data as at the end of 1982, and published in the Central Statistics Service's latest bulletin of statistics for September 1983. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 Mar 84 p 4]

TRAINING IN MICROCIRCUITS -- Pretoria Technicon announced yesterday that a micro-electronics laboratory is to be established at its new campus for training technicians and technologists. The head of the electronics department said in a statement yesterday that the rapidly expanding electronics industry in South Africa was causing an acute shortage of trained technicians and technologists in the field. "The arms embargo against South Africa and the need for electronic systems in locally manufactured weapons started a micro-electronic "revolution" in South Africa and more and more manufacturing plants are being established in the country," said Mr F.J. Schlakwyk, of the Electronics department. Until now foreign technicians have been used in these manufacturing plants and conditions there make it impossible to train local technicians. Mr Schalkwayk said the technicon could train technicians in the basics of electronics, but that no facilities were available to train students in micro circuits. The manufacturing plant will enable the technicon to train technicians while making integrated circuits and will also be used for research in microelectronics. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 10]

GATSHA INTERVENTION SOUGHT--Durban. The head of the Zulu nation, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, has been asked to personally intervene to end the bloody faction fighting in the Msinga district of Natal. A number of headmen from the district travelled to Ulundi, capital of KwaZulu, on Monday afternoon to discuss the continuous warfare in the area with Chief Buthelezi. They asked him to personally intervene in the troubled area where hundreds of people have been killed in the past 20 to 30 years. Chief Buthelezi urged the headmen to use all their powers to restrain the various clans from fighting with each other. It is possible he will also visit the area shortly to talk to the tribesmen. The Msinga district is probably the most notorious area for faction fighting in South Africa. Earlier this year three Black policemen were gunned down in an area near Msinga when they went to investigate the theft of goats. About 30 tribesmen have been arrested in connection with the incident. The tribesmen normally fight with home made firearms, pangas, choppers and knives. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 15]

HARBOR PROFITS--House of Assembly--Despite adverse economic conditions the harbours component of the Transport Services had been able to show an operating profit of R224 million, Mr W H Delport (NP, Newton Park) said. Speaking in the second reading debate on the transport budget, he said SATS handled 13,325 ships during 1983, which was a tremendous achievement in the midst of a world recession. A factor that contributed to this achievement was that the Department, despite reducing its staff by 947, managed to maintain a complement which could operate effectively in extremely difficult circumstances. [Excerpt] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 4]

COLOURED SADF--Fewer than two-thirds of the Coloureds and Indians who volunteered for the South African Defence Force during 1983 had been accepted, the

Minister of Defence, Gen Magnus Malan, said in written reply to a question from Mr Brian Goodall (PFP, Edenvale). Gen Malan said 608 Indians had volunteered, of whom 153 had been accepted. Of the 2,300 Coloureds who applied for an initial two-year military service, the SADF had admitted 1,600. All 250 Coloured trained men who had volunteered for extended service had been accepted. Gen Malan added that permanent single quarters for 1,500 Coloured volunteers had been completed last year. No expansions were planned for Indians. --SAPA [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 4]

OVERCROWDED JAILS -- South African prisons were "mildly overcrowded" last year with an average daily population in December of 105 509.8 against a capacity of 74,378, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said. Overcrowding in prisons was a relative concept because United Nations rules did not lay down specific norms, he said in written reply to a question by Mr Dave Dalling (PFP, Sandton). South African prisoners were mainly employed outside during the day and had access to spacious courtyards for sport and recreation, he added. According to figures of percentage overcrowding supplied by the Minister, prisons in larger areas which were overcrowded last year included the male institutions at East London, Port Elizabeth and Bloemfontein (145.8, 131.2 and 206.5 percent overpopulated respectively), Krugersdorp male and female (149.3 and 143.3 percent respectively), Leeuwkop (112.1 percent) and the Barberton Medium Town Jail (236.1 percent). Mr Coetsee said the Barberton Prison was being closed, while plans were underway to build new jails at East London, Leeuwkop, Bloemfontein and other centres where overpopulation was being experienced. SAPA [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Mar 84 p 4]

TRADE UNION UNITY--Seven major independent trade unions representing nearly 300,000 black workers, have decided to go ahead with a federation of industrially based unions, it was announced in Cape Town at the weekend. Three other unions, often described as "community-linked" or "general," with no clear industrial demarcation, have withdrawn from the feasibility committee set up last year to discuss the structure of the federation. In what might prove to be the most decisive step yet towards trade union unity, the seven unions have committed themselves to a federation "of industrially demarcated unions with the eventual aim of having one union for one industry." The seven unions are the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, the Federation of South African Trade Unions, the Food and Canning, and African Food and Canning Workers'Unions, the General Workers' Union, the Council of Unions of South Africa, and the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association. [Text] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 6 Mar 84 p 3]

SAAWU STRIKE POSTPONED--A decision on a strike by 18,000 workers affiliated to four branches of the South African Workers' Union (Saawu) has been postponed until the annual conference of Saawu at the end of the month. The Johannesburg branch of Saawu met this week and agreed with decisions that have been taken by the Escort, Heidelberg and Kempton Park regions that they wait until the conference before deciding whether to strike over the new tax system. Mr Barnabas said Saawu had held a string of meetings from February 10 to March 3 in the Heidelberg, Escort, Kempton Park and Johannesburg regions about the new taxation system, which has caused a lot of resentment amongst

Saawu members. "Our members in Escort, Heidelberg, Kempton Park and the Johannesburg regions spoke in one voice and wanted to go on strike if employers dared cut their salaries in terms of the new tax system. The taxation will hit the migrant workers and married females," said Mr Barnabas. [Text] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 8 Mar 84 p 2]

MWU-ESCOM NEGOTIATIONS--ESCOM [Electric Supply Commission] has promised to do everything in its power to eliminate integration of its facilities, after discussions with the Mineworkers' Union (MWU). The MWU, which has many members who are in the service of ESCOM, was obliged to approach the administration of ESCOM after complaints had been received about the sharing of facilities. Various rounds of discussions were held with ESCOM afterward. In a letter to the MWU the personnel director of ESCOM, Mr G.F. Lindeque, writes that ESCOM agrees that it is not desirable to accommodate workers of various racial groups in the same living quarters and that bathroom and washing facilities should not be shared by living quarters. Steps have already been taken with respect to establishing separate accommodations at Grootvlei and Henley-on-Klip. According to Mr Lindeque the various managers of regional head offices have been asked to investigate the matter. ESCOM will contact the MWU in due time. The MWU has requested its members in the service of ESCOM to bring the matter to its attention if ESCOM should not meet its commitment. [Text] [Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 1 Feb 84 p 16] 8700

DIE PATRIOT NOW MONTHLY--Mr Piet Roodt, who formerly was connected with a Pretoria morning paper, has been appointed the editor of the KP [Conservative Party] party paper DIE PATRIOT. He will fullfil that task on a part-time basis with the help of collaborators. DIE PATRIOT will only appear once a month from now on. Before the paper had to close down at the end of last year due to serious financial problems, it appeared weekly. In the future the paper will only be mailed to subscribers and not appear on the street. Furthermore, an editorial planning committee, composed of Dr Connie Mulder (chairman) and Messrs Koos van der Merwe and Thys Human, has been appointed. [Text] [Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 25 Jan 84 p 2] 8700

SENATOR HART'S REMARKS CITED—The Democratic Party's candidate for the American presidency, Senator Gary Hart, says he's in favor of extensive economic sanctions against South Africa. He also supports recent steps in the American Congress to restrict trade links of the two countries. Mr Hart told REUTER that should he become president he would change the Reagan administration's policy towards South Africa a great deal, as he put it. He said earlier that he believed he could become the Democratic candidate in the presidential elections now that he had proved his popularity in the various regions in the United States. Earlier this week he won primary elections in five of nine states. [Text] [MB160735 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Mar 84]

BRIEFS

TV WORKERS RETRENCHED--MBABANE--Swazi television and radio, Matzapha, has retrenched 104 workers with effect from April 1. The managing director said the unfortunate retrenchment was due to the economic recession which is being aggravated by the importation of cheap audio products from Far Eastern countries.--SAPA. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 Mar 84 p 3]

MYSTERY SURROUNDS DISAPPEARANCE OF MP LUKE KAZINJA

Kampala MUNNANSI in English 6 Feb 84 pp 4, 6

[Text] The disappearance of the Democratic Party Member of Parliament for Rakai North, Hon. Luke Kazinja, which occurred last Friday on 27th January, 1984 immediately after some members of Uganda armed forces had raided and shelled his house, remains mysterious.

Eyewitnesses say Hon. Kazinja's house was surrounded and raided by a combined force of over 30 UNLA soldiers some of whom were travelling in armoured Jeeps. During the shelling, reports further say, at least two persons were allegedly shot and killed, one of them is believed to be Hon. Kazinja's son and others were seriously injured. Five other members of his household including his wife were arrested by the security men. These were: Charles Willy, Budengo James, Adinwa Collins and Kavule Budi. It is further reported that after the shelling, the house was ransacked, all moveable property looted and the rest destroyed. At the same time, eyewitnesses say, a lot of exotic things were off-loaded into the compound. At the time of the incident Hon. Kazinja was away attending the Democratic Party Delegates Conference at Lugogo Indoor Hon. Kazinja left the conference in a bus which brought other conferants. He separated with his friends at the public taxi park at South Street and took a taxi bound for Nakulabye where his home is. That was the last time anyone ever saw him again. Many people expressed shock that the government decided to use extreme force when it fully knew Kazinja's whereabouts and could have used normal police channels to contact him or apprehend him if necessary.

At least 200 residents in the vicinity were said to have deserted their homes following the shelling incident and subsequent extensive looting by the security men. One of the neighbours of Hon. Kazinja is Mr Godfrey Kaggwa-Mukasa who works in the Vice-President's office. He is also said to have now left the place. Since the attack on his family government has repeatedly, on mass media, called on the MP to report to the police, but observers have began suspecting that this could be a smokescreen. Government sources have claimed that Mr Kazinja could have been involved in the slaying of the four Europeans who were killed recently. But according to reliable investigations the 4 Europeans who were killed in the neighbourhood of Kampala on the road to Kaazi Sailing Club were actually killed by military intelligence personnel who could be traced to one of the military barracks. When the incident happened appeals were made for proper normal investigations. Apparently no

immediate such steps were taken until the incident at Kazinja's home occurred.

Independent observers suspect, however, that what sparked off the incident might have been something to do with the expulsions of Rwandese settlers in Rakai District early last December about which Hon. L. Kazinja was very local, that way, embarrassing certain powerful people in government.

RESULTS OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY ELECTIONS REVEALED

Kampala MUNNANSI in English 6 Feb 84 pp 1-4

[Excerpt] The new D.P. National Executive Committee stands as follows:

- 1. President-General: Hon. Paul Kawanga Ssemogerere, (He received 474 against Okeny's 122).
- 2. Vice President General: Mr Andrew Adimola: (The post was formerly held by Tiberio Okeny and it was fought for by John Kabaireho who received 130 votes against 463 for Adimola).
- 3. Chairman: Bonifance Byanyima: (reelected unopposed).
- 4. Deputy Chairman: Joseph Mulenga: (polled 366 against 192 of S. Mutenyo another veteran from Mbale).
- 5. Secretary General: Bob Kitariko: (received 432 against the incumbent Anthony Ocaya's 152).
- 6. Deputy Secretary General: Sam Kuteesa, MP (who sailed through unopposed).
- 7. Treasurer General: The incumbent Evaristo Nnyanzi, MP (polled 423 versus 159 for former Minister Cuthbert Obwangor).
- 8. Deputy Treasurer General: John Ssebaana Kizito, MP (who triumphed unopposed).
- 9. Organizing Secretary: Zachary Olum: (was also reelected unopposed).
- 10. Deputy Organizing Secretary: A. Kafumbe-Mukasa, MP (received 409 votes against 77 for S. Kyalya-Kanobe).
- 11. Publicity Secretary: Dr Ojok Mulozi, MP (received 419 votes and incumbent Valerian Assa Ovonji polled 109).
- 12. Deputy Publicity Secretary: Anthony Ssekweyama, (won with 378 votes against 107 votes for Adrian Sibo).

- 13. National Youth Chairman: Engineer Sam Weli Drale (was elected with 259 votes. He contested with Hon. W. Nyakatura among other candidates).
- 14. Deputy National Youth Chairman: S. Ssebuggwawo, MP (elected with 280 against a total of 211 for his several rivals).
- 15. Legal Adviser: Dr Joseph Byamugisha: (was returned unopposed).
- 16. Deputy Legal Adviser: John B. Kawanga, MP (who polled 318 votes against Patrick Mawali's 150).
- 17. National Women's Leader: Miss Madesta Kabaranga Akiiki (who received 282 votes versus 218 for Mrs C. Nakanwagi Kabugo).
- 18. Deputy Women's Leader: Mrs G. Byanyima (who was elected unopposed).
- 19. Secretary for Women's Affairs: Mrs J. Kasule (who polled 332 votes while her opponent Miss Teddy Namukasa got 130 votes).
- 20. Regional Representatives: The party's constitution was amended to increase the number (from 2 to 4) of regional representatives from each region and the successful candidate are as follows:
- Northern Region: 1. Ambrose Okullu (who is incarcerated at Luzira Maximum security prison under the Detention Act without trial).
 - 2. Lawrence Oloko
 - 3. Major Tom Angutoko
 - 4. Ojok Gwokto
- Eastern Region: 1. Cyprian Isiko
 - Solomon Mutenyo (who in September fell victim of false imprisonment).
 - 3. Prof Kyesimira (also incarcerated at Luzira under the infamous Detention Act)
 - 4. William Wanzusi
- Buganda Region: 1. Pious Kawere (recently released from false imprisonment at Mbuya military barracks).
 - 2. Prof Joseph Mukiibi
 - 3. Hon. Andrew Ben. Ssengooba
 - 4. Mr C.D. Lawanga
- Western Region: 1. Hon. Jerome Karugaba
 - 2. Prof T. Kabwegyere
 - 3. Francis Bantariza
 - 4. Joseph Kazairwe

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PROGRAM PUBLISHED

Kampala MUNNANSI in English 6 Feb 84 pp 10-13

[Text] The Democratic Party leadership's record, both in Parliament and outside, is unmistakeable, clear and straightforward. The pity is that government has tended not to reciprocate the goodwill with which we have made constructive criticism and proposals in the field of security.

The record of proceedings in Parliament and of our press conferences, interviews and other public statements, will show that the DP treats insecurity as Uganda's leading problem. Ambitious economic and social programmes, however well-intentioned, are doomed to fail in the short run or distant future, unless they are supported by a well-defined popular programme to improve the security situation. The Democratic Party is convinced that the ultimate root causes of our insecurity are political. Consequently, any realistic programme in this respect ought to embrace not only a machinery for the enforcement of law and order. Such a programme ought to embrace concrete and popularly supported proposals for the settlement of issues that have plagued Uganda since independence and which sonstitute the very heart and soul of the current violence.

Principally and essentially, the political programme envisaged here ought to aim at giving Ugandans a popular and democratic national constitution. The constitution ought to provide, inter alia, for the strictest respect for fundamental human rights; for a truly democratically elected and constitutional government; for a nonpartisan civil service, an independent judiciary, and a professional, nonpartisan, and national military, securely protected against the political pitfalls of the incumbents in office. The constitution ought to have entrenched safeguards to ensure free and fair elections, not only to Parliament but to city, municipal district, and local councils. As set forth in the party manifesto for the 1980 election campaign, the DP stands for devolution of more powers to urban and local governments once these have, as we so demand, been democratically constituted.

Since the immediate causes of the guerrilla movement seem to be in essence, two: namely (a) strong feelings of bitterness and disagreement against the person and leadership of President Obote and his close colleagues; and (b) the controversial 1980 general elections, the DP has on several occasions proposed two possible peaceful solutions to the guerrilla problem.

One possible solution would be to support face to face reconciliation talks between the warring parties, i.e. between the UPC government and the guerrilla leaders; or for such talks to be conducted in a wider forum, or indirectly by third parties. The second peaceful alternative is for the government to commit itself resolutely, honestly and publicly to a free and fair general election, accompanied by a total amnesty for the guerrillas, guaranteed by both major political parties. In this respect also, there is a respectable body of opinion among the DP rank and file in favour of guaranteeing total indemnity to officials and officers in government and the military, etc. for excesses and abuses made while in office in their antiguerrilla offensive.

As a matter of utmost urgency the Democratic Party demands the following steps to be taken:

- a) The revolution of the 1967 Public Security Act, under which arbitrary arrests and detention without trial can be made:
- b) The release of all political detainees wherever they may be interned;
- c) The dismantling and destruction of all torture chambers and their attendant implements, and the introduction of a constitutional ban on all forms of systematic torture;
- d) Limiting the role of intelligence agents only to information gathering without powers of arrests and detention;
- e) Requiring that all intelligence organs and agents be part and parcel of a nonpartisan professional civil service;
- f) Placing full responsibility for internal security, law and order, in the exclusive jurisdiction of the civil police;
- g) Making it a constitutional requirement that all defence and security agreements with other countries or with regional or multinational organizations be first considered and approved by Parliament before they come into force.

A political programme such as the one outlined above would bring realistic hopes for genuine and positive peace for Ugandans at home and abroad, and would constitute a sound basis for economic and social progress.

The Democratic Party can only propose a peaceful political programme because, firstly, the peaceful approach has been a cornerstone of the party policies since its inception; and, secondly, because all available evidence from our own country's past and from other countries in Africa and elsewhere in the Third World, points to the clear and certain dangers in employing violence as a means of gaining or retaining power.

B. The Economy [as published]

By his own choice President Obote appointed himself Minister of Finance. He thus bears particular responsibility for the performance of the economy, more especially for the consequences of as a result the policies and measures that bear his stamp.

The Noneconomic Factors:

Both in the "Background to the Budget," 1981, and in "First Step to Recovery," 1981, as well as in many other documents, government concedes the relevance, to a successful economic programme, of certain political factors. The experience, in this respect, of the last three years unfortunately points to a wide gulf between theory and public declaration on the one hand, and practice and achievements on the other. The failure, evident everywhere, of the government economic recovery and reconstruction programme is largely due to this contradiction.

In the 1981 "Background to the Budget, Idi Amin's dictatorial and arbitrary rule, coupled with financial mismanagement, was correctly blamed for the accelerated decline of Uganda's economy. In the "First Step to Recovery," President Obote declared his immediate objective: The first objective is the attainment of national unity, political stability, security for all persons, and protection of property.

Ugandans still encounter dictatorial and arbitrary rule in their everyday life: in the appointment and performance of chiefs, in the conduct of UPC youthwingers and constituency chairmen; as well indeed as in the appointments, promotions, transfers, and compulsory retirement of public officers--including those in the management sector. Government seems to have abandoned the merit system in favour of the spoils system in the public service. The country is paying dearly in terms of inefficiency, and financial mismanagement. UPC politicians who have been appointed to Boards of Directors of parastatal bodies, especially where they have been appointed chairmen of such boards, have arrogated to themselves the powers of management; and considerably curtailed the role of the Managing Directors. The result has been confusion as to the locus of decision-making; and hence we have unwarranted delays in execution of tasks, including utilization of foreign loans, and misallocation, even misuse of financial and other resources. It is because of the spoils system and the politicization of management that huge public funds are squandered on cult-building events as the Bushenyi "Hero's Day."

Government has a long way to go to show that it even believes in, let alone adheres to, a policy and programme directed at promoting national unity, political stability, security of all, and protection of private property.

The spirit of national unity is not in evidence in the appointment of local and urban authorities as well as District Commissioners; and it is not in evidence in the recruitment and promotions in the military service. Collective punishment and public condemnation by government leaders, of particular tribes for offences allegedly committed by individuals are not and cannot be conducive to the "attainment of national unity." National unity cannot be promoted by a denial of elections to local and urban councils everywhere in the country.

Political stability must not be defined narrowly in terms of the duration of an incumbent or a party in a national office. Political stability, in a democracy, is better defined in terms of the endurance and dependability of the political system and process as a whole. In some cases it is necessary

for the political leader to leave the scene in order for a democratic system to survive and grow. Political stability must also be interpreted in terms of our culture and in terms of the periphery, namely the villages in the rural areas, where the bulk of our people live.

We cannot talk of political stability in Moyo and Arua, in Luwero, Mubende and parts of Mpigi where whole communities have been killed, or displaced from their homes. Nor can we talk of political stability in these areas where criminals, persons of dubious character, and social rejects, have been appointed to high offices for which they have no qualifications. These are not the leaders to inspire the citizenry towards increased economic activities. They are not the leaders to promote national unity, security of person and of property. Such officials spend most of their time in coercive and destructive activities directed towards asserting their power. Little wonder that economic recovery still eludes us.

GENERAL STATEMENT BY CNTV SECRETARY REPORTED

Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 23 Jan 84 pp 5, 10, 12

[Excerpts] At a trade union meeting, CNTV [National Confederation of Voltan Workers] Secretary General Emmanuel Ouedraogo made a statement with five parts, pertaining to:

- -- The economic situation as a nation
- -- The national political situation
- -- The situation of the CNTV
- --The relations of the CNTV with the other central trade union organizations, in particular the CSV [Voltan Trade Union Confederation], and --The relations of the CNTV with the new Upper Voltan authorities.
- I. The Economic Situation of the Nation

The characteristic of the national economy at the moment is that there is none. There is no need for the embellishment of any explanatory statistic in support of this obvious thesis.

The sad reality being experienced by the workers can be described as follows:

- --Reduction of personnel
- -- Closing of enterprises
- -- Increased unemployment
- -- Scarcity of goods of first necessity
- -- Rising prices.

All of this occurs against a background of drought and generalized economic crisis.

Comrades, it is not the habit of responsible workers such as ourselves to point to scapegoats for the evils from which we suffer. It is therefore not the current regime which could solely take responsibility for this fiasco. It is only our duty to point out to it:

--That it is urgently necessary to mobilize the intellectual and physical energies of all of the sons of this country, without partisan or ideological discrimination, in support of a carefully thought-out and consistent program for economic recovery; and

--That it is desirable to incorporate the production forces we represent in the study and drafting of this economic recovery strategy. In this connection, we make a point of voicing our profound disappointment at the exclusion of representatives of the workers from the meeting of the interministerial commission which was held on 16 November 1983 concerning business difficulties and possible solutions to these problems.

That having been said, we are persuaded and believe, consistent with the new philosophy of the country, that it falls to each Upper Voltan, each worker, to act, to do something instead of expecting everything from the state, or worse, from abroad.

Only economic recovery launched by Upper Voltans for Upper Voltans can provide social peace and give the workers organizations their full efficiency in the tasks which fall to them. In any case, the best government for us, the workers, is that capable of responding to the aspirations of the people for well-being, and capable, for achieving this, of transforming citizens' discontent into programs for action, while at the same time knowing how to obtain the collaboration and support of those of good will in the search for solutions to various problems encountered.

II. The Political Situation

Comrades, since August 1983, a revolutionary process has been under way in our country. As the chief of state so rightly put it, this process is the result of 23 years of political irresponsibility and underhanded dealings. Five months later, it must be admitted, the policy of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] has shadowy areas, and general and not yet specific guidelines, structures which have not yet been defined. This is why it is not yet possible to assess the new policy undertaken overall. However we hope that the regime, which wants to liberate all of the energies heretofore restrained, will find the ways and means of incorporating the workers in various activities and undertakings of the state.

Concerning the political event of the day, to wit the trial of the officials of the Third Republic, we recall with honorable pride that we have always demanded that light, and full light, be cast on the administration of this regime, and that the misappropriated or badly managed assets of the people be returned to them.

III. The Silence of Our Trade Union Confederation

It is said that silence gives consent. But what is forgotten is that silence also teaches, at least in the sense that when a people fall silent, it is an invitation to their representatives to reflect. The silence on our part had this latter meaning.

In fact, following our struggles from 1975 to 1980, which culminated in the establishment of the democratic institutions of the Third Republic, we chose to allow the new authorities some time. We had confidence in their capacity to derive lessons from the past, such as to avoid a return to the path already covered. We were wrong.

The Third Republic was the second refrain, with its arbitrary display, the settlement of accounts we had denounced and disavowed.

In the final analysis, for responsible organizations of the workers, there is a time for action, a time for contemplation, and a time for respite.

IV. CNTV Relations With Other Central Trade Unions, in Particular the CSV

The CNTV, an organization of the workers oriented toward the defense of the material and moral interests of its members, has always sought unity of action beyond situational pluralism. The CNTV has never been a political party unwilling to admit what it is, much less the vehicle of a political attitude. Nor has it political ambitions; rather it has a social ideal.

It is understandable, then, that the relations between our organization and the other central trade unions, in particular the CSV, are troubled. That organization, which claims to be the champion of Upper Voltan trade unionism, has always sought to exclude the other organizations of the workers from representation of them. It wants to exist alone, not just to defend the interests of the workers, but in reality claims to have a monopoly on the proper line, truth, virtue and courage, while actually, it serves only as the channel for officious political representatives. This was confirmed during its 18 December 1983 meeting, which allowed the workers and the people to become aware of its nature.

The CNTV, which wants to avoid useless polemics, does not hold this political-ideological commitment against it. But what is less acceptable to us is the war declared by the CSV on the other trade unions, in distrust of pluralism and the freedom which, paradoxically, that organization itself endorses. The fact is that there will be no battle for lack of combatants on this level.

The CSV wants a single trade union--itself. This is a legitimate ambition, although we for our part think that it is likely to achieve only "single" results. But from that to seeking the assassination of the others is to engage in arson, to which the fire department must respond. We leave to it the responsibility for answering to history, to the judgment of history, whose verdict we prefer to await.

V. CNTV Relations With the New Upper Voltan Authorities

The CNTV is consistent in its attitude toward any established regime: it favors dialogue, agreement, participation and serious and productive collaboration.

Therefore prior to and following 4 August, in view of the continued economic decline, it has sought such a dialogue in vain. It continues to do so, with a view to discussion of:

-- The role of the trade unions in the new domestic political life of our country;

- -- The role of the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] in the services or enterprises;
- -- The economic recession, with its tragic social effects; and
- -- The massive dismissals, suspensions and discharge of workers in violation of state laws and regulations.

On this subject, it is deplorable that careers should be destroyed, that good minds should be exiled, to the detriment of the general interests, on the fragile basis of anonymous denunciation. The example of the think tanks provides palpable proof.

In plain language, we want to remain loyal partners with a view to bringing about a society of freedom, justice and solidarity.

Comrades, there is great hope that the future of our country and that of the workers class will be more radiant. If power is returned to the people, and thus to the workers, to all the workers, then the trade unions, all the trade unions, will always be understood and heeded. We are in no doubt that the trade unions are not the privileged partner of a regime. We are aware of this. The trade unions and the regime should then constitute a couple allowing the advance of our economic and social machine.

This is the concept of trade unionism which offers hope. To create this hope, we are developing solidarity capable of uprooting the fear and the mistrust which lead to man's inhumanity to his neighbor. We are trying to build solidarity on all levels, and across the chasms which separate us from the regimes which set man against his brother. Freely we share fraternity, and we reject everything which might destroy this fraternity.

5157

CSO: 3419/455

COLUMNIST HIGHLIGHTS RECENT NATIONAL EVENTS

Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 10-12 Feb 84 p 10

[Commentary by Passek-Taale: "A Letter to Laye"]

[Text] Dear Wambi:

By now you doubtless have the answer to the question you asked me in your letter this week about green beans. I say this because the last Council of Ministers meeting took up the question and you perhaps heard the report on the radio.

I have nothing to add, therefore, except that without a doubt, according to the boldest rumors, the problem is above all one of transportation.

What I mean to say to you is that, in view of the economic crisis from which the world is suffering, the traffic flow between Europe and Africa has declined greatly.

Unfortunately, our subregion is not the exception which proves the rule. It seems that it is indeed for this reason that our green beans have suffered the fate they have, because our partners cannot afford to pay for transport facilities to return empty. If they did, the price per kilogram would be beyond reach.

It also seems that there has been ill will somewhere.

In any case, there is the explanation of why the UVOCAM [Voltan Union of Agricultural and Market-Gardening Cooperatives] suffered a loss of about 115 million Upper Voltan francs. Which shows that if an economy is based on exports, one can come close to catastrophe either because the prices of goods drop or because people have changed their consumer habits, or simply because of transportation problems.

But in the final analysis, all is well that ends well, since we have learned that henceforth Air Afrique will fly two planeloads to our country per week (Monday and Saturday). Point Air, for its part, will fly to the aid of the UVOCAM, sending one planeload a week.

Above all, then, there should be no discouragement among the producers, for as the proverb says, "Winter's rain and cold are gone."

Now, to look backward for a moment, let us note that since Sunday, 5 February, the three sessions of the People's Revolutionary Courts (TPR) have been held at the House of the People in Ouaga, with Andre Roch Compaore, who was minister of rural development from 1980 to 1982, under the Military Correction Committee for National Progress (CMRPN), and Leonard Kalmogo, minister of finance under the Third Republic, as the headliners.

Where the latter individual is concerned, let me inform you that the unrelenting verdict was handed down on Tuesday evening:

-- Seven years' imprisonment with no possibility of remission

-- Repayment of:

2,406,846 francs 922,800 francs 239,029 francs 75,000 francs 169,146,318 francs

-- Confiscation of assets up to the total of the sums listed above

-- Five hundred million francs fine

-- Payment of costs, with maximum imprisonment for debt

-- Warrant for commitment to prison.

As to the Andre Roch Compaore trial, at the time that I am sending you these few lines, dear cousin, it is continuing with the testimony of witnesses.

The government of the United States made a gift of 10,500,000 CFA francs last 17 January so that immediate aid could be sent to the victims of the drought in the Sahel province.

This sum was supplied by the embassy of the United States in the form of a subsidy to two nongovernmental organizations based in our country, for the purchase of more than 100 metric tons of grains to be given out through the Village Groups as the intermediary in the Dori and Oudalan regions.

Within the framework of the parachute unit, 219 individuals in the Koudougou Airborne Action Battalion carried out jumping exercises in Bobo from 19 January to 1 February 1984.

I am going to stop here for today, dear Wambi, with a last little secret. Secret? No! If it is a secret at all, it is an open one.

Mr Jean-Baptiste Kafando, a judge and the older brother of Michel Kafando, the former minister of foreign affairs now in exile, was arrested and imprisoned in Po last Friday, according to sources close to his family.

It seems that there were also other arrests, and that some of the military may even have been involved.

But this remains to be confirmed.

And so it goes.

Good-bye for now.

Your cousin,

Passek-Taale

5157 CSO: 3419/455

BRIEFS

USTV, OAT, UGTA JOINT SEMINAR--A seminar on the African level the main themes of which pertain to Arab-African cooperation, the struggle against the policy of apartheid and Zionism is currently being held in Algiers. It was organized by the Arab Labor Organization (OAT), the General Union of Algerian Workers (UGTA) and the Voltan Workers Trade Union Federation (USTV) within the framework of their bilateral relations. Some 30 USTV delegates are participating in this meeting, at which an effort is to be made to consolidate the bonds linking the workers on our continent. This seminar will continue until 12 February. In addition to the main themes, the seminar will discuss the national and international revolutionary trade union movement and its role in the economic and social development of Upper Volta and the Third World. [Text] [Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 8 Feb 84 p 1] 5157

CSO: 3419/455

ZAIRE CONSUL CALLS FOR ZAIRIAN-ZAMBIAN SECURITY FORCES' COOPERATION

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 1 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Zaire Consul-General, Mr Kesangana Dedetemo, yesterday called for close cooperation between his country's and Zambian security forces in order to provide a permanent solution to the current border problems which pose a threat to the good relations existing between the two countries.

He said that if the two security forces worked as a team, many problems confronting the two countries, such as smuggling, could be easily wiped out.

The Consul-General said this when he paid a courtesy call on Ndola Urban district governor, Mr Alexander Kamalondo, at the Civic Centre.

Mr Dedetemo said that due to lack of cooperation between Zambian and Zairean security forces, it was proving difficult for his government to bring wrong-doers to book because each time they wanted to take action, the culprits fled to Zambia and vice-versa.

It was therefore imperative, he said, for the two security forces to join hands in the fight against problems associated with the common border as well as other evils which threaten peace in the region.

He pledged that his country would not tolerate its nationals who flouted Zambia's laws. Those engaging in such acts could be sure of receiving severe punishment from his government once caught.

"Zaire will not allow wrong-doers to tarnish the excellent relations existing betweenour two peoples," he said.

Mr Dedetemo pointed out that lack of cooperation had its disadvantages in that whenever measures were taken by either country in isolation to solve certain problems, the chances of such problems getting solved became very very slim.

He noted that there were enemies who were working day and night to mar the relations existing between the two countries and that it was only through unity that Zambians and Zaireans could frustrate such evil designs.

Earlier, Mr Kamalondo said that the problem of smuggling which has been causing great concern had been minimised as a result of political education and regular contacts between Zambian and Zairean government authorities.

The governor agreed with his guest that whenever misunderstandings occurred, the two countries should do everything possible to resolve them amicably, especially at grassroot level.

He said the brotherly relations between Zambia and Zaire had further been demonstrated by the twinning of Ndola and Lubumbashi.

He said Ndola looked forward to the reciprocal visit by a Lubumbashi civic delegation which arrives soon for the second leg of the twinning ceremony.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, IMF TEAM HOLDING DISCUSSIONS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 24 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Government officials and an International Monetary Fund team are currently holding discussions on a number of issues including the extension of the IMF assistance programme to Zambia.

This was confirmed in Lusaka yesterday by Minister of Finance Mr Luke Mwanan-shiku who added that the talks covered a wide range of subjects.

The present agreement with the IMF expires on March 31 and the Government had already indicated that it would seek another one for a further one year.

The on-going discussions with the IMF officials led by vice-president Mr Edwin Bournemann include whether Zambia had satisfied conditions for continued assistance.

Asked to confirm this, Mr Mwanashiku said: "Yes, I can confirm that we have been holding a range of discussions with a delegation from the IMF."

The IMF delegation has already met President Kaunda and his top economic advisers.

Former Bank of Zambia governor Mr Bitwell Kuwani said recently Zambia had received her latest IMF drawing of 67 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs).

The IMF has also posted a representative at the central bank—a move Mr Kuwami said had proved beneficial to the country since the fund was now able to see at first hand the difficulties being experienced in rehabilitating the economy.

Presenting the Budget for 1984 Mr Mwananshiku said Zambia had last year concluded a one-year standby agreement with the IMF which involved the purchase by the Government of a sum of SDRs 211.7 million or K297.1 million for balance of payments support.

So far an equivalent of K200.8 million has been drawn leaving a balance of K96.3 million, said Mr Mwananshiku.

And ZANA reports that a top Bank of England adviser arrived in Lusaka from London to hold talks with Bank of Zambia officials.

MINISTER SAYS TRIBALISM THREATENING DISTRICT COUNCILS' OPERATIONS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Tribalism and financial indiscipline are threatening the smooth operations of district councils, Minister of State for Decentralisation Mr John Mwondela said in Parliament yesterday.

These vices had caused a breakdown in discipline and to remedy the situation "it is necessary first to weed out all the unsuitable officers without fear or favour."

The calibre of some people serving councils left much to be desired.

Winding up the debate on the estimates of the Personnel Division Mr Mwondela said it would be necessary "to break up tribal and provincial groupings to ensure district councils operate under the 'One Zambia One Nation' basis."

"This would be done through transfers between district councils and provinces."

Vacant posts would be advertised so as to afford every Zambian an opportunity to apply.

On the confirmation of officers, he said the Personnel Division and the Public Service Commission scrutinised each officer's assessment to ensure only the best continued.

The assessments had been completed and were being considered by the commission for a decision.

He said because of the need for Zambianisation, some local people who were not well-trained had been appointed to district council secretariat.

"In answer to the need to provide well trained and experienced Zambians, it has become necessary to upgrade the training programmes at the National Institute of Public Administration."

Restricted

All diploma and high level manpower training including that for decentralisation would be undertaken by the NIPA main campus.

Some of the diploma courses would be in public administration, personnel management, accountancy and the Institute of Local Government Administrators of Zambia (ILGAZ).

The financial constraints afflicting Zambia had restricted the number and grading of positions in the civil service.

This was exemplified by the fact that while in 1983 the total civil service establishment was 78,981 it had been reduced to 76,447.

* NCDP PAPER RAPS FAO, WORLD BANKS' FOOD AID CHANNELING TO NATION

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 27 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Out of the K18.7 million jointly recommended for investment in Zambia Fisheries in 1979 by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Bank, no amount was specifically earmarked for research.

Such a proposal in the absence of proper baseline is irresponsible and underscores Zambia's dependent position development aid.

This observation is made in a report compiled by the National Commission for Development Planning (NCDP) and the University of Zambia, released in Lusaka which is critical of the manner in which the two world bodies channel their food aid to Zambia.

The report on "agricultural baseline data for planning" proposes that the increased cost of research efforts must be taken into account in the development process.

"Whether financed internally or externally, it is the cost incurred for the nation to be systematically aware of its own operation to allow rational forward planning. This applies to every field of economic activities," the report says.

It recalls that FAO assistance made possible the groundbreaking fisheries studies of the early 1970s. When these projects came to an end fisheries research fell back to a minimum level and "even below the minimum."

International research financing is available to restore Zambian fisheries studies to a level of high quality on a shortterm basis. But the major impetus must come from within.

The report says only internal financing and manpower can assure the continuity of a long-term research effort that will not die when the cutside experts have gone home.

"At present we note that the 1979 FAO/World Bank identification mission recommended more than K18 million investment in Zambian fisheries. The recent Ital-consult study proposed a comparable level of investment on the basis of a three-month study tour which gathered virtually no original data," it says.

DESPITE PROBLEMS, AID TO HUNGER-STRICKEN VALLEY CONTINUES

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 27 Feb 84 p 5

[Excerpt] Impassable tracks and a shortage of tyres have hampered the transportation of food to distribution points in the hunger-stricken Gwembe Valley.

A Zambia Red Cross field service coordinator for southern area, Mr Henry Banda said at the weekend that despite the problems, the relief operations were going on and hundreds of starving villagers were being served every day.

Mr Banda was answering questions from members of disaster preparedness and relief committee who together with a team of Pressmen took a conducted tour of four distribution points at Mandenga in Chirundu, Sikoongo, Lusitu and Matuwa.

He said that army trucks which were delivering bags of maize were often out of action by bursting tyres and narrow impassable tracks thus bringing relief operations in some areas to a standstill.

Arrangements have been made with villagers in impassable areas to collect their supplies from any nearby points which were not less than 10 kilometres in some instances.

Mr Banda said of the 7,777 bags of maize which were provided in the first phase of the relief operation, over 5,500 bags have already been distributed among the starving villagers.

"I am happy with the cooperation from the villagers and I am confident that the operation will be carried out smoothly by the time it ends in June," he said.

At all the four distribution points visited, women with children on their backs queued for the maize which was being distributed at 30 kg per family, while their menfolk sat nearby to ensure all was well.

A volunteer at Mandenga point said the women queue for the maize as early as 5.00 hours when the time for distribution was 8.00 hrs.

A headman at Mandenga, Mr Jeremiah Kanyugumbo said his people had resorted to eating wild grass called Mhande in view of the inadequate food in the area. He said although the 30 kg maize given to each family was appreciated, it was not enough to last for a week especially for families who had a lot of children.

UNIVERSITY TO START COMMERCIAL OUTPUT OF NEW STOCKFEED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 28 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] The University of Zambia will soon start commercial manufacture of a new stockfeed which will save the country millions of Kwacha in foreign exchange.

Unza senior lecturer Mr Andrew Chimwano said this in Lusaka yesterday when he announced that the school of agricultural sciences had made a breakthrough.

"We are soon starting commercial feed testing of the rations we have pioneered at the university farm," he said.

After the experiment the stockfeed formula would be released for commercial manufacture.

While stockfeed made by National Milling Company required K240 in foreign exchange a tonne to produce, the new formula would need K10 to import vitamin trace materials.

Only eight kilogrammes of imported salts would be used. Maize bran and sorghum would replace maize.

Improve

Commercial utilisation of the formula would save the country foreign exchange. Mr Chimwano said his team would use sand to improve the digestion in pigs and poultry.

The discovery, if adopted, would be significant in that maize would only be for human consumption.

Experiments had shown that pigs and poultry feed on the new formula would gain more weight.

The formula has been recommended to Indeco and it marks the beginning of Zambia's livestock industry based on local materials," said Mr Chimwano.

Results of the research, which has attracted interest among farmers, "clearly indicates that there is no need to use maize in the rations of pigs and chickens. We should leave maize to human consumption."

Recently Member of the Central Committee Mr Reuben Kamanga said poultry and piggery industries in Zambia were on the verge of collapse as many farmers were abandoning rearing the birds and animals because of poor quality stock-feeds.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO IMPROVE RURAL ROAD CONDITIONS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 24 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The Government has been urged to improve roads particularly in the rural areas to speed up national development.

Making his contribution on a vote for the Ministry of Works and Supply, Isoka East Member of Parliament, Mr Elwell Muwowo, said 85,000 bags of maize were rotting in his constituency because of transport problems caused by poor roads.

Such a situation could retard development if not corrected because farmers would be discouraged from growing more crops for sale, he said.

"There can be no real development in any area without a good road system.

"I therefore call on the ministry to look into this matter.".

Mr Muwowo was supported by Mr Rex Natala (Bweengwa) who wondered why many roads in Southern Province including the Monza-Chitongo and the Choma-Namwala ones had not been graded for a long time when these routes led to production areas.

Mr Alfayo Hambayi (Kanyama) said the Government should look at priorities among areas when considering where road improvement should be carried out.

He appealed to the Government to ensure that existing roads were well maintained because if their condition deteriorated repairs would cost as much as constructing new one's.

Mr Jonathan Singombe (Dudumwezi) appealed to the Government to improve roads in his Kalomo Constituency which he said despite the poor state of feeder roads had produced more than 280,000 bags of maize in 1980.

"The improvement of roads in the area will encourage farmers to produce even more, knowing that transportation won't be a problem."

Wondered whether the delays in improving the Choma-Namwala road were caused by lack of money or "something else." "If it is money, let us know. And if it is because of something else, let us know too so that we can remedy the situation," he said.

BWANA MKUBWA MINE TO CLOSE 30 APRIL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 24 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The Bwana Mkubwa Mine in Ndola will close down on April 30 following the exhaustion of copper ore.

General manager of Ndola Lime Company which administers Bwana Mkubwa Mr Emmanuel Hachipuka said yesterday the mine had reached the end of its economic life.

He said the closure of the mine which is situated 18 km southeast of Ndola will be done in stages and about 109 former Mining Contractors workers who manned the open pit on a special contract will lose their jobs.

But the other 116 concentrator workers in permanent Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM) employment would be given alternative employment.

Equipment and the concentrator plant will be taken elsewhere within the company.

Mr Hachipuka said mining in the main open pit ceased on February 2. At present mining is continuing in a newly opened western extension until April 21 after extracting 76,000 tonnes of high grade ore.

Although some ore remained at the bottom of the main pit, this cannot be extracted economically. The pit had already been deepened from the 130 metre level to 146 metres and it was considered unsafe to extend it any further using the present mining methods.

Studies into the alternative means of extracting the residual ore indicated that the cost per tonne of finished copper would be in excess of K4,000 which the company could not afford.

The company had already notified the chief inspector of mines about the reduction in pumping of water which would result in flooding the pit. Only the pumps to feed water to the concentrator would remain.

Mr Hachipuka added that negotiations on the domestic use of pit water were in progress with the Ndola Urban district council.

The closure of the mine was first announced in January last year by the former manager Mr Jan Slabik when Minister of Mines Mr Basil Kabwe toured the place.

Mr Slabik said there was too much water in the mine and the company was spending a lot of money to pump it out. He said there were more than 81 million litres of water and the company spent K100,000 a month to pump it out when copper cost K730 a tonne.

The mine was last closed in 1971. In 1980 geologists ascertained it had a life span of two years.

Mr Kabwe attributed the short life span to exploiting of malachite reserves by the former contractors who neglected the production of copper. The mine was pegged in 1902 but production did not start until 1913.

BRIEFS

STUDENTS FOR EAST BERLIN--Zambian students studying in East Germany will be recalled if they misbehave, Minister of State for Higher Education Mr Mbambo Sianga warned in Lusaka yesterday. Addressing 66 students who leave for East Berlin on Thursday for studies Mr Sianga said Zambia's image abroad must be upheld by the students. He did not want to hear about students indulging in heavy beer drinking. Zambia and East Germany enjoyed good relations which should not be jeopardised. Whatever the students did should be towards the enhancement of the excellent relations that existed between the two countries. The Zambian Government would not take kindly to behaviour which tended to tarnish its good image. Mr Sianga said the three years that they would be in East Germany would be enough to make the students realise why they had gone to that country instead of waiting for people to remind them. He warned them against looking down upon the courses they would be doing. They should respect their tutors and lecturers. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 28 Feb 84 p 5]

FRG AID TO POLICE FORCE--Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of the Technical Wing, Mr Alport Fulilwa has praised the Federal Republic of Germany for the continued assistance it renders to the Zambia Police Force. Mr Fulilwa was speaking at the Force Headquarters in Lusaka yesterday when he received 20 new BMW motorbikes from the West Germany government for use by traffic police. He said the West German government had done a lot in helping the police force in Zambia and that the new bikes would help the force smoothen its operations. Making the presentation on behalf of his government, outgoing First Secretary at the West German Embassy, Mr Rolf Helmrich said he was greatly touched by the cordial relationship that exists between the two countries. Mr Helmrich, who is leaving for Bonn today after two and half years in Zambia, hoped the motorbikes would be properly used to control traffic in the country. Mr Fulilwa paid tribute to Mr Helmrich and said it was unfortunate to see him leave after having done a lot in cementing the relationship between the two countries during his stay in this country. [Text] [Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 1 Mar 84 p 5]

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT GRANT--Australia will this year grant Zambia 10,000 tonnes of wheat under the food and technical assistance programme. The wheat tonnage is an increase of 6,000 tonnes compared to last year's figure. This was said in Lusaka yesterday by the Australian High Commissioner to Zambia, Mr Ian James. Mr James could not say how much the 10,000 tonnes of wheat will cost.

The consignment of wheat for this year, should arrive in the country in April, the envoy said. He added that he was waiting for the shipping documents. Another programme for this year will involve the provision of over K500,000 worth of agricultural machinery spare parts, Mr James said. He said that the spare parts were also expected in Zambia soon. Australia will this year provide expatriate personnel in various fields including science, to work for two to three years contract, he said. Mr James said those who would want to extend their contracts would be encouraged. "Provision of personnel in various fields is a continuous process. At the moment we have Australians working in Zambia," he said. Australia has been giving food assistance to Zambia on two programmes namely; as direct food aid and through the World Food Programme (WFP). Last year, it sent 5,000 tonnes of wheat through the WFP. Mr James expressed satisfaction at the way the food and technical assistance from his country was being used in Zambia. [Text] [Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 28 Feb 84 p 3]

APPOINTMENT OF FIRST PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS HAILED

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 29 Feb 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] Government policy has always been to get the masses of the people, those in the rural areas in particular, more involved in the development of their areas.

The proposals outlined by the Prime Minister at the appointment of Zimbabwe's first provincial Governors, envisaging as they do a completely new power structure starting at the village level right up to the Prime Minister himself, should go a long way towards achieving this objective.

The major appeal of the new provincial administrative system is that from tomorrow, when the new Governors assume office there should be more scope for coordination in development projects.

The Governor will ensure that only jointly planned development projects are effected while at the same time enabling local authorities to set out their priorities in a meaningful order at a local level.

One of the burning issues that have faced the Ministry of Local Government and Town Planning has been the existence of different local authorities for the commercial farming areas, represented by the rural councils and the communal lands by the district councils.

The amalgamation of the two has brought this anachronism, which had become a bone of contention to an abrupt end, and should ensure uniformity of development in both areas.

The appointment of powerful provincial Governors with authority to make onthe-spot decisions should also go a long way towards furthering the concept of decentralisation which is so essential if all parts of Zimbabwe are to develop at a uniform pace.

RISING COSTS 'GREATEST CHALLENGE TO MINING INDUSTRY'

Harare BUSINESS HERALD in English 1 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by David Masundo]

[Excerpt] Production costs in Zimbabwe's ailing mining industry have risen by 150 percent over the last five years, says Chamber of Mines chief executive Mr Ken Vanderplank.

Mr Vanderplank, who today goes on leave pending retirement after service to the country's mining industry spanning more than a quarter of a century, said that during the last five years fuel costs, wages, sales tax and import surtax among others—have risen sharply.

He said these rising costs were the greatest challenge facing the mining industry.

"The Government must appreciate the problems facing the mining industry as a result of costs and it must do everything in its power to assist in overcoming these problems."

Many of the small mines closing down are gold mines which had opened at a time when gold prices—then standing at about \$600 an ounce—were very high compared to today's prices of about \$400 an ounce.

"These small mines which were opened on the basis of high gold prices are becoming unable to continue business."

Mr Vanderplank (55) who has been working for the Chamber of Mines for 26 years, says he does not forecast a big rise in gold prices.

"But I certainly believe the international prices of gold will go up," he said.

He will retire in April and will join the South African Chamber of Mines "for a few years" as an advisor in industrial relations.

He said: "I have been involved in industrial relations and labour relations since 1955. Its an area where changes are taking place in South Africa.

"Some of the laws have been changed in recent years and non-racial trade unions are now being organised, black unions are also now being organised so the whole scene has changed."

The Chamber of Mines and the Associated Mine Workers' Union of Zimbabwe have a good working relationship.

He said working relationships between mine management and their workers had also greatly improved in this country and this could be shown by the reduction of strikes.

"The local mining industry has had a very peaceful existence from an industrial relations point of view.

"The chamber has also, over many years I believe, represented the views of the mining industry with a fair degree of success in all sorts of areas."

BRIEFS

WHITE VOTERS' REREGISTRATION--The reregistration of white voters is in full swing and completed forms are coming in steadily, the Registrar-General, Cde Tobaiwa Mudede, said yesterday. Although no statistics were available at the moment, great progress had been made in the exercise. "We cannot give specific figures because forms are being processed," Ode Mudede said. The exercise was ordered by President Banana to take place between December last year and June 8 this year. The reregistration was the first in several years. Many of those on the old list have moved to new constituencies or left the country. According to the constitution, all Zimbabwean citizens over the age of 18 and of European, Asian or coloured descent, were eligible for reregistration as voters on the white roll. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 1 Mar 84 p 3]

THREATS TO FARMERS--The president of the Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr John Laurie, has expressed great concern at situations that are making "farming operations difficult," according to the latest issue of THE FARMER. The magazine says that the increasing incidence of cattle encroachment, trespass, poaching and general lawlessness in commercial farming areas, especially in Matabeleland and the Midlands, against a background of drought, was making farming operations extremely difficult. It says that encroachment of communal area cattle onto commercial farms had reached such serious proportions that commercial cattle production and, in some areas, crops, were threatened. Flagrant encroachment, it says, was characterised by the deliberate cutting and removal of fences, illegal grazing, poaching, snaring and, in some instances, the intimidation of the farmer and his employees. The magazine also says that the restoration of law and order along the boundaries of commercial and communal areas was now vital. The commercial farming sector was fully aligned with Government's quest for stability and law and order. "However in order to achieve this, firm and decisive action is now essential." The magazine warns that if action was not taken now, ranching operations already fighting for survival in a third year of drought "will surely be put out of busuiness. Widespread crop theft is now a real possibility." Many crop farmers and ranchers had in the past gone out of their way to assist communal farmers during periods of stress at considerable cost to themselves. It says in many cases, particularly in Matabeleland, commercial grazing had been offered to the communal people only to have further encroachment take place as that grazing was destroyed by gross overstocking. -- ZIANA. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 2 Mar 84 p 13]

RURAL TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING CENTERS--The Government will soon establish modern rural technological training centres throughout the country to train members of district and ward development committees and cooperatives, the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Cde Moven Mahachi, said yesterday. Speaking during a tour of the Glen Forest Training Centre, formerly Africa Cooperative Action Trust Zimbabwe, about 30 km east of Harare, Cde Mahachi said there was a lack of change towards modern technology in the rural areas although the people had all the resources. "Such centres will train anybody who failed to get a place at an agricultural training institute like Chibero Agricultural College," he said. The Government is also supporting similar ventures -- the Ponesai Vanhu Centre, sponsored by the Danish government, and the Glen Forest Centre, established last year by former Ranche House College principal, Mr Ken Mew, now the centre's principal. "The Glen Forest Training Centre is the nucleus of this programme and it is the best example we have," Cde Mahachi said. The minister suggested teaching "some bookkeeping" to help improve by testing in cooperatives. Cde Mahachi also suggested that the centre train rural people to: [1] Make simple tools like badzas; [2] Improve roof-thatching methods in rural areas; [3] Build beehives to boost honey production in communal lands; and [4] Learn from farming methods used at State farms such as Nijo Farm Produce. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 2 mar 84 p 6]

MEASURES TO HELP FARMERS--The Minister of Agriculture, Senator Dennis Norman, yesterday announced far-reaching measures to hel drought-affected farmers in the "enzootic zones" sell cattle they cannot keep because of a shortage of grazing land or water. He told the Senate during the debate on the adjournment of the House that the cattle would then be held on Cold Storage Commission ranches and be available in 1985 for a restocking exercise should this be The CSC would arrange cattle sales in the communal and commercial areas to "undertake residual buying of surplus cattle. It is hoped that these measures will alleviate the problems which these farmers are enduring," he said. Schator Norman explained that in the southern half of the country, where farmers depended upon livestock as their source of income, they were now experiencing their third successive drought. "Of particular concern is the plight of the farmers in the southeast and western Matabeleland, where cattle movement must be confined within the veterinary zones." Outside the special veterinary zones open market prices had fallen to unacceptably low levels as farmers were forced to sell cattle. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 2 Mar 84 p 3]

BEEF EXPORTS TO ANGOLA--Harare--Zimbabwe is to export 4,000 tons of beef worth (about R6.2 million) to Angola in the first six months of this year according to a joint statement by the Cold Storage Commission and the Angolan importing agency Importang. It will be the first phase of a trade agreement involving beef exports from Zimbabwe to Angola over the next five years. Detailed contractual arrangements for the first six months of this year have been completed. "Discussions are scheduled to be held for the second six-months period of this year." [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 84 p 10]

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